PUBLISHED MONTHLY.—PRICE 8 ANNAS.
THE INDIAN RAILWAY
TRAVELLERS' GUIDE.
The Best and most Complete Guide in India.
Time and Fare Tables of all Indian Railways, Steam Boats, and Daks. Places of Interest inland and along the Coast. Postal and Telegraphic information, &c., &c.
COLOURED MAP OF INDIA.
Bombay Gazette Press, Fort, Bombay.

The Bombay Gazette.

No. 51,188—New Series. BOMBAY:—SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1897.

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MILKMAID
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"Largest Sale in the World."

SHIPPING.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

DEPARTURES FOR EUROPE.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	SATURDAY, 2 P.M.
			1897.
B.M. CALEDONIA	7558	W. B. Andrews	25th Dec.
			1898.
† CARTHAGE	5287	J. R. London	1st Jan.
B.L. ORIENTAL	5284	W. H. Moule	8th "
† BALLAARAT	4890	W. J. Nantes	15th "
B.M. EGYPT	8000	R. F. Briscoe	22nd "
† SHANNON	4189	F. Cole	29th "
B.M. CALEDONIA	7558	W. B. Andrews	5th Feb.
† BALLAARAT	4890	W. J. Nantes	12th "
* CARTHAGE	5287	J. R. London	19th "
B.M. PENINSULAR	5287	W. A. Wheler	26th "
* SHANNON	4189	F. Cole	5th Mar.
B.M. EGYPT	8000	R. F. Briscoe	12th "
* CARTHAGE	5287	J. R. London	19th "
B.M. CALEDONIA	7558	W. B. Andrews	26th "
* SHANNON	4189	F. Cole	2nd April.
B.M.L. ORIENTAL	5284	W. H. Moule	9th "
* CARTHAGE	5287	J. R. London	16th "
B.M.L. PENINSULAR	5287	W. A. Wheler	23rd "
* SHANNON	4189	F. Cole	30th "
B.M.L. EGYPT	8000	R. F. Briscoe	7th May.
* CARTHAGE	5287	J. R. London	14th "
B.M.L. CALEDONIA	7558	W. B. Andrews	21st "
* SHANNON	4189	F. Cole	28th "

The Steamers marked B. L. proceeds to BRINDISI, PLYMOUTH and LONDON direct.

The Steamers marked B. M. proceed to BRINDISI and MARSEILLES only, Passengers for London proceeding on by rail.

The Steamers marked B. M. L. proceed to BRINDISI, MARSEILLES, PLYMOUTH and LONDON direct. The Steamers marked † proceed to Aden only and Passengers tranship there to a Steamer for Brindisi, Marseilles, Plymouth and London.

Steamers marked * proceed to ADEN only and cannot take Passengers for Europe.

Heavy baggage must be sent to the Ballard Pier before 9 A.M. on the day of sailing.

A Steam Tender leaves the Ballard Pier at NOON on the day of sailing, to convey Passengers on board, and only hand packages will be received. The attention of Passengers is called to the importance of having their Baggage labelled with Port of Destination.

TO STRAITS, CHINA AND JAPAN.

The Company's STEAMERS LEAVE BOMBAY FORTNIGHTLY, usually on WEDNESDAYS, taking Passengers for the STRAITS, CHINA, and JAPAN, and Return Tickets are issued on favourable terms.

Cargo Steamers are despatched to China at frequent intervals, calling at Ports en route.

For further particulars apply to

I. M. SHIELDS,
Superintendent, P. & O. S. N. Company.

Bombay, 11th ecember, 1897.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S. N. Co.

UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT.

ACCELERATED SERVICE TO TRIESTE, *VIA* ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on
IMPERATOR	J. Nicolich	4,116	1st Jan., 1898.
IMPERATRIX	T. Bassevich	4,213	1st Feb., 1898.

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	Deck.
TRIESTE, or VENICE	Rs. 590	Rs. 325	Rs. 150

Steamers for BOMBAY leave TRIESTE on the 3rd, and BRINDISI, on the 4th of each month.

ORDINARY SERVICE TO TRIESTE, *VIA* KURRACHEE, ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Steamers.	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on or about
TRIESTE	A. Mitis	5,605	15th Jan., '98.
POSEIDON	R. Mayer	3,878	12th Feb., '98.

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY BY THIS ROUTE.

	2nd Class.	Deck.
TRIESTE or VENICE	Rs. 375	Rs. 150

STEAMERS for BOMBAY LEAVE TRIESTE on the 20th of each month.

RETURN TICKETS

By either Accelerated or Ordinary Service to TRIESTE.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.
AVAILABLE for 6 MONTHS	Rs. 960	Rs. 575
AVAILABLE for 12 MONTHS	Rs. 1060	Rs. 635

THROUGH TICKETS TO LONDON.

1st and 2nd Class Single and Return are issued via Trieste, the St. Gothard's, and other Routes.

In connection with the Steamers' Tickets the Company issue now Railway Tickets to the Principal Towns of Austria and Germany, as well as Tickets by steamers of the "Norddeutscher Lloyd" (North German Lloyd) to ports of North and South America, Australia, &c. called at by their vessels.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE "MESSAGERIES MARITIMES CO."

THE Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Austrian Lloyd's and the Return by the Messageries Maritimes Co. at reduced fares. This arrangement will prove of special advantage to passengers on 3 months privilege leave.

STEAM TO COLOMBO, PENANG, SINGAPORE, HONGKONG, SHANGHAI, KOBE.

Steamer	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on or about
AMPHITRITE	R. Mrle.	3,826	25th Dec., 1897

Connecting at COLOMBO with the S. S. AGLAIA to MADRAS and CALCUTTA on the Outward and Homeward voyage.

For further particulars, Freight, Passage &c., apply to

E. SCARPA,
Agent.

Sassoon House, 50, Church Gate Street, Bombay, Dec., 24, 1897.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.
FOURWEEKLY DEPARTURE.

TO MARSEILLES DIRECT
VIA ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	To sail on Friday.
SALAZIE	4,255	Paul	21st Jan., 1898.
LAOS	6,090	Flandin	18th Feb., 1898.
SYDNEY	4,232	Aubert	15th March 1898

TO COLOMBO, SINGAPORE, JAVA, SAIGON, TONQUIN, CHINA, JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA.

Vessel.	Tons.	Captain.	To sail on or about the
CALEDONIEN	4,232	Durrande	13th Jan. 1898.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S. N. Co.

The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Messageries Maritimes, and the return voyage by the Austrian Lloyd's at Reduced Fares. This arrangement will prove, in some cases, of special advantage to Passengers on three months' privilege leave.

For further Particulars apply to

C. RUINAT, Agent.

Old Oriental Bank Buildings, 57, Esplanade Road, Bombay.

THOS. COOK AND SON,

BANKERS AND ARMY AGENTS.

PASSAGES PROMPTLY ENGAGED by P. & O. MAIL, and all other Steamers, including non-Liners FREE OF CHARGE for COMMISSION.

SPECIAL ATTENTION given to the selection of berths and Social Grouping of Passengers.

THROUGH TICKETS issued available from any Railway Station in India to all parts of the Globe.

CONTINENTAL TRAVELLING TICKETS issued, allowing breaks of Journey at all places of interest.

PASSENGERS with COOK'S Tickets met and assisted at all Chief Continental Ports and Cities.

REDUCED RATES to Railway employes, Family Parties and Missionaries.

OUTWARD PASSAGES engaged and Tickets supplied from any part of the world to India.

HOTEL COUPONS available at over 2,000 Hotels.

REDUCED FARES for Military Officers, Government Officials, and Missionaries to Europe via China and America.

HEAVY BAGGAGE received, forwarded and insured.

LIFE and ACCIDENT INSURANCE policies issued.

CIRCULAR NOTES and LETTERS of CREDIT issued for the use of Travellers in all parts of the World.

DRAFTS issued at the Exchange of the day.

SOVEREIGNS, BANK NOTES, and Foreign money bought and supplied. CURRENT ACCOUNTS kept, and Interest allowed when the Credit Balance does not fall below Rs. 1,000

DEPOSITS received. Rate of interest on application.

INTEREST, PAY and PENSIONS collected and every description of Banking and Money Agency transacted.

Handbook of information free on application.

BOMBAY: 13, Esplanade Road.

CALCUTTA, Old Court House Street.

WILLIAM WATSON AND CO.,

BANKERS & AGENTS,

BOMBAY—8, Hornby Road.
CALCUTTA—8-1, Council House Street.
KARACHI—Bunder Road.
LONDON—7, Waterloo Place, S. W.
LIVERPOOL—23, Water Street.
PORT SAID—8, Quay Francois Joseph.

[illegible]URRENT ACCOUNTS opened with any amount over [illegible]00 without charge for Commission, and Interest allowed. [illegible]XED DEPOSITS received for 3, 6, 9 and 12 months, at [illegible]est to be learned on application.

[illegible]Y, PENSIONS AND ANNUITIES collected FREE of [illegible]MISSION, and without Life Certificates.

[illegible]ters of CREDIT payable anywhere, issued at Current

[illegible]FTS, CHEQUES AND BANK BILLS issued, cashe[illegible] or Collection.

[illegible]GRAPHIC AND REGULAR HOME FAMILY [illegible]ANCES made AT THE BEST Exchange rate of th[illegible] [illegible] of HOME friends for Telegraphic purposes [illegible] CODE, minimizing expense, at [illegible]ght and sold.

[illegible]D OTHER SECURITIES [illegible] and Dividends collected. [illegible] approved securities. [illegible]ay in England. Cost of [illegible]MMISSION charged for [illegible], bought and supplied [illegible] MARINE—effected at [illegible] ORIENTAL LIFE [illegible] and Hand books sent free

SHIPPING.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, (LIMITED).

Intend to despatch Steamers as follows:—

FOR KURRACHEE DIRECT.

S. S. "DUMRA," 1,695 tons, on the 25th Dec., at 2 p.m., or on arrival of English mail, if later arriving.

FOR KATHIAWAR COAST PORTS AND KURRACHEE.

S. S. "DWARKA," 1,695 tons, on the 28th Dec., at 10 a.m., calling at Verawal, Mangrole Porebunder, Cutch Mandvie and Kurrachee in the foregoing or any order. (Weather permitting.)

FOR KURRACHEE AND PERSIAN GULF.

S. S. "SIMLA," 1,615 tons, on the 29th Dec., at noon, calling at Kurrachee, Gwadur, Muscat, Abbas, Linga, Bushire, Fao, Mahomerah, Busreh in the foregoing or any order. (Weather permitting.)

FOR COAST AND CALCUTTA.

S. S. "BEZWADA," 5,001 tons, about 27th Dec.

FOR ADEN, LAMOO, MOMBASSA, AND ZANZIBAR.

S. S. "GOA," 1,903 tons, on or about 30th Dec.

FOR COAST AND RANGOON.

S. S. "CHINDWARA," 2,011 tons, on or about 29th Dec.

FOR SEYCHELLES, MOMBASSA, ZANZIBAR AND DELAGOA BAY.

S. S. "NOWSHERA," 3,024 tons, on or about 15th Jan., 1898 calling at Seychelles, Mombassa, Zanzibar, Mozambique, Beira and Delagoa Bay in the foregoing or any order.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOLD FIELDS.

PASSENGERS and Cargo booked through from Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Bombay, or Rangoon via Singapore for all adjacent ports to the various Gold Fields. Fortnightly departures from Singapore.

For further particulars apply to

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co.,
Agents.

Bombay, 24th December, 1897.

KING, KING & CO.,

BANKERS AND EAST INDIA AGENTS, BOMBAY.

PASSAGES engaged by P. & O. and all Steamers at the lowest rates obtainable free of charge or Commission.

Lists of the LATEST SAILINGS, with Fares and full information as to berths available, furnished at once.

Special attention paid to the grouping of those wishing to travel 2nd Class, P. & O. Every assistance rendered to Passengers arriving in Bombay for embarkation. Baggage taken over at the Railway Stations and shipped.

THROUGH RAILWAY TICKETS from any Station in India to Bombay, and Tickets for all Continental Routes furnished on application.

SPECIAL AGENTS of the Firm meet all Steamers at BRINDISI and MARSEILLES.

PACKAGES of every description received for despatch as CARGO to Messrs. Henry S. King & Co., London; or Messrs. King, Baillie & Co., Liverpool. Freight and Marine Insurance effected at the Lowest Rates. QUOTATIONS FURNISHED on APPLICATION.

KING, HAMILTON & CO.,
CALCUTTA.
HENRY S. KING & Co., LONDON.

NAVIGAZIONE GENERALE ITALIANA SOCIETA RIUNITE FLORIO RUBATTINO

BOMBAY to NAPLES and GENOA, Calling at ALEXANDRIA for BRINDISI and VENICE.

Vessels.	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on
S.S. SINGAPORE	Pizzarello	2,684	6th Jan., '98.

Rates to Naples, Genoa, Brindisi, or Venice:—

1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.
Rs. 550	Rs. 385	Rs. 150.

RETURN TICKETS TO THE ABOVE PORTS:—

1st class, Strictly within three Month Rs. 750; six Months Rs. 900; nine Months, Rs. 925; and twelve Months, Rs. 950.

Passengers have the option of going via Venice and Returning via Genoa or vice versa, and can Break their Journey at any Port, resuming it by subsequent Steamers of Bombay or other Weekly and Daily Local Lines.

Through and Return Tickets to London on Application.

BOMBAY to HONGKONG, calling at Singapore, on the 2nd January 1898.

For Freights and Passage, &c., apply to

F. BALDOVINO,
Agent.

Sassoon House, Elphinstone Circle, Bombay, Dec. 9, 1897.

HOMEWARD PASSAGES.

THOS. COOK AND SON,

BANKERS AND PASSENGER AGENTS.

PASSAGES PROMPTLY ENGAGED by P. & O. MAIL and all other Steamers, including Non-Liners. FREE OF CHARGE for COMMISSION.

SPECIAL ATTENTION given to the Selection of Berths and Grouping of Passengers.

CONTINENTAL TRAVELLING TICKETS issued available by any route, and allowing breaks of Journey at all places of interest *en route*.

PASSENGERS with COOK'S TICKETS met and assisted at Bombay, London, Gravesend, Liverpool, Brindisi, Naples, Genoa, Marseilles, Venice, Paris, and all Chief Continental Ports and Cities.

RAILWAY OFFICIALS, MISSIONARIES, FAMILY PARTIES, &c., booked at reduced rates.

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CALCUTTA: Old Court House Street.

GRINDLAY, GROOM & CO.,

BOMBAY.

GRINDLAY & CO., CALCUTTA, BANKERS AND AGENTS.

PASSENGER DEPARTMENT.

HOMEWARD PASSAGES booked without charge and on the most favourable terms. Berths carefully selected, with special attention to grouping.

SLEEPING CAR AND CONTINENTAL RAILWAY TICKETS procured.

RAILWAY OFFICIALS, MISSIONARIES, &c., booked on terms of existing concessions.

PASSENGERS met on arrival.

CIRCULAR NOTES, BANK NOTES, DRAFTS, and SOVEREIGNS, at current rates.

HAND-BOOKS supplied gratis, and general information promptly given.

LONDON AGENTS.—MESSRS. GRINDLAY & Co.

HOMEWARD-BOUND PASSENGERS AND TOURISTS.

MESSRS. LATHAM & Co receive and store Surplus Baggage and re-ship same.

Articles of Indian Art manufacture received and packed securely for transit.

MESSRS. LATHAM & Co. being directly represented at all the principal European, American, and Australian ports by thoroughly reliable Agents, all packages entrusted to their care will be expeditiously and economically cleared and despatched on arrival at destination.

If desired, passengers can be met on arrival by Messrs. LATHAM & Co.'s Agents.

BOMBAY, Esplanade Road. KARACHI. Bunder Road.

LATHAM & Co.,

BOMBAY: Esplanade Road. KARACHI: Bunder Road.

DESPATCH PARCELS AND CARGO as follows:—

United Kingdom—Weekly.
United States of America—Weekly.
Canada and British North America—Weekly.
Germany and Austria—Bi-monthly.
Italy—Fortnightly.
Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand—Fortnightly.
China, Japan, and Straits Settlements—Weekly.
South America—Monthly.
Aden—Weekly.
Regular Despatches to South Africa, West Indies via Southampton and Liverpool.

The above Despatches are by Mail steamers, but shipments are effected by cargo steamers sailing constantly for Continental Ports at Greatly Reduced Rates.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

LATHAM & Co.,

BANKERS AND ARMY AGENTS

SHIPPING, FORWARDING, COMMISSION AND GENERAL AGENTS.

BOMBAY AND KURRACHEE.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and conducted free of charge and interest allowed.

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TELEGRAPHIC REMITTANCES AND REGULAR HOME PAYMENTS arranged at the best rate of exchange of the day. Clients' ADDRESSES CODED free of charge.

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PACKAGES forwarded to Europe and America by Eastern Express" at frequent and regular intervals, thus offering the cheapest and best Express Service, before the public.

BAGGAGE AND CARGO shipped by "HOME EXPRESS," at low rates, and to all parts of the World. Reliable Agents in every Port.

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Property of every description carefully warehoused and stored. Articles of Indian Art and Manufacture received and packed securely for transit, and forwarded and delivered at destination.

INSURANCES—Marine and Fire—effected at current rates.

Represented in London, Liverpool, and Paris by

GEO. W. WHEATLEY & Co.

SPECIAL attention is given to the clearance of goods through the Custom House, and Consignees and Importers in India may rely upon their interests being most carefully studied. A large and experienced staff is kept constantly employed on the Bunder and at the Custom House, and goods are cleared and despatched with the utmost expedition, and needless charges are thus avoided.

Residents in India should insist on their correspondents forwarding their packages to the care of LATHAM & Co.

CONTRACT RATES furnished to large Importers, Clubs, Messes, &c., for clearance of goods.

PREVENTION BETTER THAN CURE, GREATEST BLESSING OF LIFE.

PROF. H. WINTER,

THE GREAT AMERICAN INDIAN EXPERT,

Warrants

A CERTIA PROPHYLACTIC for PLAGUE as he used this Wonderful Remedy in China during the late Epidemic there and sold thousands and thousands of bottles, which eventually was the chief stay of this dire disease. It is safe and sure and is just the article needed in every family. Professor WINTER is willing to supply Plague Hospital—for trial—Free of Charge.

Professor WINTER'S fame will be remembered by many as he was in Bombay 11 years ago. Professor Winter also warrants to Cure,

Hard and Soft Corns, Bunions, Chilblains, Ingrowing Nails and Warts.

Guarantees to take them out without pain or drawing blood and further guarantees to perform a perfect cure.

PROF. WINTER also wishes to draw attention to

THE GREAT MEDICAL WONDER,

WINTER'S WIZARD OIL,

FOR INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL USE.

IT CURES

Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Toothache, Headache Earache, Catarrh, Sore Throat, Croup, Diptheria Pain in Side, Lame Back Contracted Cords, Stiff Joints, Dyspepsia, Inflamation of Kidneys, Fever and Ague, Cholera Morbus, Diarhoea, Congestive Chills, Sprains Bruises, Burns, Scalds, Cuts Wounds, Old Sores, Fever Sores, Ulcers, Caked Breasts, Sore Nipples, All Aches, and Pains,

AND ALL DISEASES OF AN INFLAMATORY NATURE.

Consultation Free of Charge.

Those who wish Mr. Winter to visit them will please send their address, and he will call on Mondays and Fridays between 2 and 3 p.m.

CHARGES MODERATE.

The Professor speaks English, German, French, Spanish and Portuguese.

OFFICE HOURS from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Private interviews will be given between 1 and 3 p.m.

Will remain here up to 15th January, 1898.

ADDRESS.—APOLLO HOTEL, ROOM No. 36.

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MARCKS & CO.'S SPECTACLES.

WE beg to bring to the notice of the SPECTACLE wearing community, our following revised PRICE LIST:—

Menist's Spectacles.	Gold. Rs.	Silver. Rs.	Steel. Rs.
With Turnpin Sides	60	28	16
With Single temple Sides	50	24	16
Folders	50	28	16

Spectacles and Folders as above but fitted with Marcks and Co.'s Pebbles, Rs. 5 reduction on Gold and Silver, and Rs. 4 reduction on Steel. The new Gold and Steel "Movillette" Frames, fitted with Menist's or Marcks' Pebbles, prices as above.

All the newest patterns in Frames always in Stock. REPAIRS EXECUTED by the most EXPERIENCED WORKMEN at reasonable rates. OCULISTS PRESCRIPTIONS CAREFULLY PREPARED.

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Our celebrated, VIOLET TINTED, SUN, GLARE and DUST GLASSES, are invaluable to people who suffer from the extreme glare of a tropical climate. May be purchased in either Steel, Nickel, Silver or Gold Frames, Japanese cups, nickel gauze cups, Stirr ups with folding sides, folders and Globular Spectacles, from Rs. 5 per pair.

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BOMBAY AND POONA.

ORIENTAL GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1874.

Those who desire the Best and Cheapest Assurance obtainable in India should effect a Policy with the ORIENTAL under the NEW "ENGLISH PREMIUM" SYSTEM.

If the POLICY be effected now it will participate in the PROFITS for the past 3 years.

THE FUNDS

have more than Doubled during 5 years and now exceed

Rs. 1,17,00,000.

As the Expenses of Management of the Oriental are lower than those of any other Company of the same age, it can afford to grant POLICIES with Exceptionable Benefits

Economy, Moderate Premiums,
Immediate Settlement of Claims,
Liberal Surrender Values and
unquestionable Security
being the principal
Features of the Oriental

Particulars and Forms may be obtained from

D. McLAUCHLAN SLATER, F.I.A.,
Manager and Actuary.
BOMBAY.

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of the Blood, whether the after-effect of Contagious Disease, hereditary taint, or foul matter of any description, are positively carried out of the system by taking "CLARKE'S WORLD-FAMED BLOOD MIXTURE," the great Blood Purifier and Restorer. For cleansing and clearing the Blood from all Impurities it cannot be too highly recommended. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Skin and Blood Diseases, and Sores of all kinds, it is a never-failing and permanent Cure. It is the only real specific for Gout and Rheumatic Pains, for it removes the "cause" from the blood and bones. To be had of Chemists, &c., everywhere at 2s. 9d. and 11s. per Bottle. Thousands of Testimonials.

ONE BOX OF CLARKE'S B 41 PILLS warranted to cure all Discharges from the Urinary Organs, in either sex (acquired or constitutional), Gravel and Pains in the Back. Guaranteed free from Mercury. Sold in Boxes, 4s. 6d. each, by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the world. Proprietors:—THE LINCOLN AND MIDLAND COUNTIES DRUG Co., Lincoln, England.

CHRISTMAS, 1897.

TRADE MARK

TREACHER & CO., LD.,

WINE AND SPIRIT DEPARTMENT.

TREACHER & Co., have made Special Importations of Wines for the Xmas Season, and their Cellars and Godowns are now splendidly stocked with FRENCH, SPANISH, RHINE and MOSELLE of good vintages in very excellent condition.

SPECIAL.—It should be noted that the Company are not merely the Agents of a few Wine Merchants at Home, but themselves buy direct from the Producers, and their prices bear one profit only.

QUALITY AND CONDITION GUARANTEED.

WHISKIES

	Cash. Rs. a.	Credit Rs. a.
Treacher's "Fine Old Glenlivet," a Special Blend of Scotch Whisky	24 0	26 8
Treacher's Special Liqueur Glenlivet, a Genuine Ripe Old Whisky	32 8	36 8
Treacher's Highland Malt Whisky, Phœnix Brand	26 0	29 0
Treacher's "Old Irish"	26 0	29 0
Treacher's Diabetes Whisky	25 0	28 0

BRANDIES.

	Cash.	Credit.
Treacher's Special Invalid Brandy	80 0	89 0
Treacher's Extra Special Liquor Brandy, per bottle	7 0	7 14
" " " per pint	3 12	4 4
000 Treacher's Fine Old Pale Cognac "Heart-Labelled Brandy"	50 0	55 8
00 Treacher's Old Pale Cognac	42 8	47 6
0 Treacher's Pale Cognac	37 8	42 0
Cheap Brandy, bottled in France for Treacher & Co., Ld.	24 0	27 0
* Hennessey's One Star ** Hennessey's Two Stars *** Hennessey's Three Stars Mounie's Vine Leaf Exshaw's No. 1 Do. No. 2	Current Rates.	

The same price allowed for them delivered free at our Godown.

FOREIGN LIQUEURS.

	Cash. Qts. Rs. a.	Cash. Pts. Rs. a.	Credit. Qts. Rs. a.	Credit. Pts. Rs. a.
BENEDICTINE	8 8	3 12	7 4	4 4
DO. per doz.	......	44 8	......	49 8
CELESTINE	7 8	4 4	8 6	4 12
CHARTREUSE, the genuine from the Monastery Green	9 0	8	10 0	5 0
Do. per doz. qts.	105 0	......	117 0	......
Do. Yellow	8 0	4 4	9 0	4 12
Do. per doz qts.	92 8	......	103 0	......
CHERRY BRANDY, best Morella, Grant's	4 4	2 4	4 12	2 8
Do. do. do. per doz.	44 0	24 0	49 0	27 0
CREME de CACAO	5 0	......	5 10	......
Do. de NOYEAU, best	5 8	3 0	6 2	3 6
CURACAO, Amsterdam, Orange or White, Wignand Forkunh. Stone Jars	5 0	3 0	5 10	3 8
KUMMEL (Creme de Allash), Riga	4 0	......	4 8	......
MARASCHINO de ZARA (the finest)	4 8	2 10	5 0	3 0
ORANGE BRANDY, per doz.	60 0	......	67 0	......
Do. per bot.	5 4	......	5 14	......
PEACH BRANDY	7 6	3 8	7 14	4 0
APRICOT BRANDY	6 0	3 0	6 12	3 6

BITTERS, &C.

		Cash.	Credit.
ANGOSTURA BITTERS	per pint.	2 6	2 12
ORANGE Do.	" quart.	2 8	2 14
Do. Do.	" pint.	2 0	2 4
PEACH Do. PAGE & SANDEMAN'S	per pint.	2 12	3 2
Brandy do. (Treacher & Co.'s) POMELLO & ORANGE BITTERS, Treacher & Co.'s WINE BITTERS, Treacher & Co.'s	" ½ pint.	1 4	1 7
GINGER WINE	per doz.	20 0	22 8
MILK PUNCH, Treacher & Co.'s	"	30 0	33 8
VERMOUTH, FRENCH	"	22 8	25 0
Do. ITALIAN	"	19 0	21 4

BEERS, STOUT, &C.

	Cash. Doz. Qts. Rs. a.	Cash. Doz. Pts. Rs. a.	Credit. Doz. Qts. Rs. a.	Credit. Doz. Pts. Rs. a.
Bass's Beer, by Foster & Sons.	7 4	5 0	8 2	5 10
Bass's Beer by Stone, L.G.A.	6 14	4 12	7 12	5 6
Guinness's Dublin Stout, by Foster & Sons	7 12	5 4	8 10	5 14
Guinness's Dublin Stout, by Burke & Co.	7 12	5 4	8 10	5 14

ROMFORD LIGHT BITTER BEER.

IND COOPE & Co.

	Cash. Rs. a.	Credit. Rs. a.
Per dozen Quarts	5 2	6 2
Per dozen Pints	3 14	4 6
Per case of 3 dozen Quarts	16 10	18 0
Per case of 6 dozen Pints	22 8	25 6

STRASBURG BOCK ALE.

GRUBER & CIE.

	Cash.	Credit.
Per dozen Quarts	6 8	7 4
Per dozen Pints	4 0	4 8
Per case of 4 dozen Quarts	25 8	28 0
Per case of 6 dozen Pints	25 0	28 0

M. B. FOSTER & SONS'

SPARKLING DEVONSHIRE CIDER.

	Cash.	Credit.
Bottles	7 12	9 0
Half-Bottles	5 4	6 0

COMPLETE LISTS ON APPLICATION.

BOMBAY. BYCULLA. POONA.

J. B. BHESANIA & CO., SILK MERCERS.

Next to Sir J. J. BENEVOLENT SCHOOL,
No. 137, HORNBY ROAD.

THIS FIRM Enjoys the well-deserved reputation for supply of VARIOUS KINDS OF PONJEE.

SILK CRAPES,
PLAIN AND EMBROIDERED SATINS,
RAINBOW CRAPES, SILK GAUZES, &c.

Received every Mail Fresh from Hong Kong, Canton and Japan Establishments. Excellent Stock of Japanese and Chinese Silk HANDKERCHIEFS. Gold and Silver Embroidered Velvet RIBBONS especially for Ladies Collars and Waist-bands can be had Cheap.

A TRIAL SOLICITED.

BEYNON'S DISINFECTANTS.

	Rs. a.
Sanyle Powder in 2 lb. tins	0 8
" Liquid per gallon	3 0
Carbolic Acid per gallon	2 12
" " Powder 10 per cent.	6 8 cwt.
" " " 15 per cent.	9 12
Cloride of Lime	20 0 cwt.

	Rs. a.
Perchloride of Mercury	4 0 lb.
Black Oxide of Manganese	2 0
Permanganate of Potash	125 0
Manganate of Soda	65 0
Naphthaline Crystals	56 0
Carbolated Creasote	3 0 gallon

Condy's Fluid, Terebene and other Patent Disinfectants in Stock.

BEYNON & CO., { ENGLISH CHEMISTS, } BOMBAY & POONA

UNION ASSURANCE SOCIETY

Established in 1714. Accumulated Funds, £2,932,697 Stg.

LONDON & LACASHIRE FIRE INSURANCE CO.

Capital fully subscribed..............£2,127,580 Stg.
Total Security to Policy-holders..............£3,000,694 Stg.

SUN INSURANCE OFFICE.

The Oldest Fire Office in the World, Founded 1710.
Total Sum Insured in 1896..............£388,950,000 Stg.

LONDON ASSURANCE CORPORATION.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1720. Fire Prem. in 1896, £397,097 Stg.

SOUTH BRITISH INSURANCE CO. OF NEW ZEALAND,

Authorized Capital..............£1,900,000 Stg.
Claims paid to date..............£2,725,000 Stg.

RELIANCE MARINE INSURANCE CO. LD.

Capital fully subscribed, £500,000 Stg. Reserve Fund, £100,000 Stg.

As Agents of the above-named Companies, we are prepared to Accept Risks, Fire, and Marine, at Current Rates.

GREAVES, COTTON & CO.,
FORBES STREET, FORT, BOMBAY.

THE INDIAN "PREMIER" BICYCLE

THE CHEAPEST BICYCLE | IN THE WORLD. | PRICE Rs. 250 CASH. | PRICE Rs. 275 CREDIT.

MARCKS & CO., LD.,

HAVE the pleasure to announce that they have eventually succeeded in influencing THE PREMIER CYCLE CO., LTD., to Manufacture a PLAIN, SOUND and SERVICEABLE BICYCLE at a price that will bring a Machine within touch of those who either cannot or will not invest in the more costly models. The outcome of their endeavours to place a thoroughly reliable Machine on the market is the

INDIAN "PREMIER"

which is built by THE PREMIER CYCLE CO., LTD., of WELDLESS TUBES and fitted with the WARWICK PNEUMATIC Tyre licensed under the WELCH PATENT.

MARCKS & CO., LTD., are prepared to back these WELDLESS TUBE ROADSTERS for Excellence, Appearance and WEAR against any Machine manufactured of Weldless Tubing as every individual part has been most carefully put together.

Though the CHEAPEST MACHINE in the WORLD, it is destined nevertheless to take a PROMINENT POSITION in the ADVANCE-GUARD OF BICYCLES.

MARCKS AND CO., LIMITED.
BOMBAY AND POONA.

LONDON & LANCASHIRE LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,

[ESTABLISHED 1862.]

Assurances on every sound and approved Plan effected on most Favourable Terms.

PROGRESS OF THE COMPANY
DURING 11 YEARS ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1896.

Year.	New Assurances.	Net Premium Income.	Invested Funds.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1885	73,48,020	14,76,426	53,28,570
1896	1,58,50,446	39,09,890	2,07,07,563

It will thus be seen that in Eleven Years the Net Premium Income has nearly trebled whilst the Funds have almost quadrupled, which remarkable expansion affords convincing testimony of Good Management and Successful Working, and promises splendid results in the future.

CHIEF AGENTS:—W. & A. GRAHAM & Co., BOMBAY.

THE NORWICH UNION FIRE INSURANCE SOCIETY
(ESTABLISHED 1797).

THE PHŒNIX FIRE OFFICE OF LONDON
(ESTABLISHED 1782).

THE LANCASHIRE INSURANCE CO.
(ESTABLISHED 1850).

THE STRAITS INSURANCE CO., SINGAPORE (MARINE).
THE WORLD MARINE INSURANCE CO., LD.

As Agents of the above First-class Offices, we are prepared to accept LIFE, FIRE, and MARINE RISKS.

Terms on Application to W. & A. GRAHAM & Co., BOMBAY.

DOLLS! DOLLS! DOLLS!

A MOST MAGNIFICENT SELECTION OF
DOLLS
HAS JUST COME TO HAND.
PRICES MODERATELY MARKED.
FROM RE. 1 TO RS. 20.
A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF OTHER TOYS.

BOLTON AND COMPANY.
DEALERS IN TOYS,
BOMBAY.

BAHADUR CIGARS.

McDOWELL & Co., MADRAS AND LONDON.

BEST FOR WARM CLIMATES.
CALVERT'S
CARBOLIC SOAPS,
The Original and only reliable Brand.
TOILET SOAP, 6d. Tablets.
PRICKLY-HEAT SOAP, 6d. and 1s. Bars.
} Each containing 10 per cent. purest Carbolic.
(Used by H. R. H. the Prince of Wales when in India)
Pleasantly perfumed for Bath or Toilet.
Very serviceable as preventives of Prickly-heat and other Skin Irritation.

Extract of letter from FRED. I. MOUAT, Esq., late Professor of Medicine in the Calcutta Medical College:— "For some time before I left India I used your Carbolic Soap with much advantage—indeed I ceased to use any other. I found none so soothing to the discomfort caused by Prickly-heat, profuse perspiration, and other sources of dermic irritation."

BEST FOR HORSES & DOGS
IS
CALVERT'S
CARBOLIC SOFT SOAP,

Cures Mange, destroys parasites on Animals, giving a healthy tone to the skin, improving the coat, and preventing unpleasant odour. Specially useful against Grease Heel, Barsati, or Mud Fever on Horses, and to keep Flanks easy. Has proved a cure for Itch and other Skin Diseases. Very suitable for washing floors and rooms infested with insects, or where Contagious Diseases are present.

USED IN HER MAJESTY'S KENNELS.

In 1 lb. & 2 lb. Jars, at 1s. & 2s. each; 1 & 2 lb. Tins, at 3s. & 5s. each (English Rates.)

F. C. CALVERT & CO., MANCHESTER, ENGLAND,
AWARDED 70 GOLD AND SILVER MEDALS AND DIPLOMAS.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE ANNUAL TEXTILE FANCY DRESS BALL

Will be held in the TOWN HALL

On FRIDAY, 14th JANUARY, 1898.

J. A. Bowley, President	W. F. Rhodes
Robt. Wood	Thos. Taylor
W. Wrigley	T. Williams

ARTHUR BENISTON, Honorary Secretary & Treasurer, Tardeo.

Tickets may be had from any of the Committee.
Rupees 6 Gentleman and Lady.
Rupees 2 Extra Lady.

TIVOLI THEATRE, BOMBAY.

TO-NIGHT
AND
EVERY EVENING
MONS. GEO. LAMBERT D'ARC'S
NEW MARIONETTES.
TREMENDOUS SUCCESS!
IMMENSE ENTHUSIASM!
SATURDAY'S PERFORMANCES CROWDED!
FRIDAY AFTERNOON AT 4 P. M.
GRAND XMAS MATINEE.
Also on Boxing Day at 4 P. M.
NO PERFORMANCE ON XMAS DAY.
DON'T FORGET THE FINEST SHOW
IN THE WORLD.
Plan now open at SOUNDY & Co.
PRICE Rs. 3, 2, 1, and Natives only 8 annas.
CHILDREN Half Price.
Military and Navy half price to Rs. 2 and Re. 1 seats.
Doors open at 8-30. Overture at 9-15.
Carriages at 11-15.

HARRY DENT,
Manager.

CONSIGNEES of CARGO per AUSTRIAN Lloyd's s. s. "MARIA TERESA," from TRIESTE, and INTERMEDIATE PORTS, are hereby informed of the arrival of the steamer, and requested to take immediate DELIVERY of their GOODS landed at the VICTORIA DOCK, No. 5.

The Company's Surveyor will attend every morning to survey Damages, and claims in this respect must be adjusted and presented before Steamer's departure otherwise none will be entertained.

EMIL SCARPA,
Agent.

BOMBAY ART SOCIETY.

THE NINTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION will be held in Bombay early in February 1898. 58 Prizes offered. For Prospectus, etc., apply to the HONY. SECRETARY, Elphinstone College, Bombay.

APOLLO BUNDER REFRESHMENT ROOMS.

CHRISTMAS DAY will CLOSE at 12 noon and OPEN 6 p.m. NO ORDERS taken for DINNER after 7 o'clock. CLOSE at 8 p.m.

W. B. GREEN.

NOW READY.
"BOMBAY GAZETTE"
OVERLAND SUMMARY,

The BOMBAY GAZETTE OVERLAND SUMMARY prepared for despatch by each Overland Mail for Europe, contains, in addition to all the news of the week, a specially-written Market and Freight Report, and a well-digested Summary of Events.

Annual Subscription (in advance)..............Rs. 12
Ditto (including postage to Europe). Rs. 15
Single Copy ....As. 4

"Bombay Gazette" Office, Esplanade Road, Fort.

GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.

NOTICE.

SOLAR ECLIPSE.

PROVIDED sufficient passengers offer, a SPECIAL TRAIN will run from POONA to JEUR and BACK for the convenience of persons residing in Bombay or Poona, who may be desirous of seeing the Solar Eclipse on the Twenty-second of January next.

A Refreshment Tent will be provided at some convenient place at or near Jeur Station where a cold Lunch will be obtainable at a fixed charge.

Passengers from Bombay will be conveyed to Poona by the train leaving Victoria Terminus at 21-30 and from Poona by the Special Train which would leave about 7-30 the next morning, arriving at Jeur about 11-30. On the return journey the Special Train would leave Jeur about 15 o'clock, arriving in Poona in time for dinner and leave for Bombay by a Night Train.

The Undersigned will be much obliged if intending passengers will intimate not later than the fifteenth January, 1898, their intention to use the Special Train.

A further notice stating definitely whether the Special will run or not will appear in the public prints on the sixteenth January and subsequent days.

A. MUIRHEAD,
General Traffic Manager.

Bombay, the 22nd of December, 1897.

PHOTOGRAPHIC DRY PLATES,

FOR

SOLAR ECLIPSE

EDWARDS' ISOCHROMATIC

ANTI, HALO

SNAP SHOT

DRY PLATES,

In Quarter, Half and Whole Plates.

J. NEUBERG,
31, ESPLANADE ROAD,
BOMBAY.

LONDON AND LANCASHIRE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

CAPITAL £2,127,500 Sterling.

RESULTS OF 1896.

Net Premiums		£836,165
Profit—excluding Interest	£84,800	
Interest on Investments	36,116	
		120,916
Dividends for Year	£42,550	
Added to Reserves	78,366	
		120,916

LOSSES paid during past TEN YEARS.
£4,363,174.

FINANCIAL PROGRESS.

	Premiums.	Reserve Fund.
1876	£240,739	£37,914
1886	482,110	376,412
1896	836,165	873,194

Insurances granted on all classes of risks in Bombay or the Mofussil. Surveys made and specifications of COTTON MILLS and other risks drawn up free of charge.

BOMBAY BRANCH OFFICE:—8, Forbes Street.

WM. D. GRAHAM,
Resident Secretary.

AGENTS:—
Messrs. DAVID SASSOON & Co.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

THE BOMBAY PRICE CURRENT, AND SUMMARY OF TRADE.

Published at the Bombay Gazette Office on the Departure of the Overland Mail for Europe.

The Bombay Price Current contains—
A Specially-Written Market Report.
Freight Report, &c.
Summary of Cotton Exports during the Week.
Imports and Exports of Bullion.
Comparative Summaries of Exports from Bombay up to date as per Ships' Manifests, with the total Exports for the month, and for the same period, as far back as 1885 and 1895, respectively.
Comparative Summaries of Imports, of Piece-Goods, and of Yarn into Bombay from Great Britain up to date, with the total for the month, and the same period, as far back as 1885 and 1895, respectively.
Share Lists and Rates of Exchange.
List of Vessels in Bombay Harbour on the date of publication, and Arrivals and Departures of Vessels during the Week.
Charters and Engagements.

Annual Subscription in advance....Rs. 10.
Single Copy ....Annas 4.

"Bombay Gazette" Office, Esplanade Road, Fort.

EDUCATION IN GERMANY.

HOME in the family of Dr. Glosl for one or two boys attending the Royal College (Gymnasium) in Wesel. Residence in healthy situation surrounded by public Park. Terms £ 75 per year.

Apply to

Dr. GLOSL,
Landsberg [illegible],
Wesel-am-Rhein,
Germany.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

THACKER & Co. LD., BOMBAY.

Messrs. Thacker & Co., Ltd., call the attention of public and private Book buyers to their facilities as Booksellers and Library Agents.

NEW BOOKS—
All new Books, Magazines and Newspapers, including Foreign Literature, are supplied promptly on the best Discount terms.

BOUND BOOKS and Book-binding—
Their Bound Stock is large and varied, and Customers can rely on the binding of their Own Books being executed with every care for their instructions. They have special experience in Strong, Cheap Bindings for Public Libraries, Station Clubs and Book Societies.

SECOND-HAND BOOKS—
A Catalogue of Orientalia will be sent on application, which includes some Old, Rare, Curious, and Useful Works.

LIBRARY ARRANGEMENT—
They are able to give expert attention to the complete fitting-up of Public or Private Libraries, and to the improvement and arrangement of existing Libraries and the execution of a Library Catalogue.

THE NEWEST BOOKS.—
If you do not receive their Monthly Catalogue of the latest publication, please ask for your name to be added to their Register. All New Books in every department of Literature will be found on their shelves shortly after publication in England.

VALUE FOR INSURANCE OR PROBATE—
They are always ready to inspect and Value Libraries or smaller collections of Books, and they also value for Insurance and Probate.

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK'S HUNDRED BOOKS—
A splendid treasury of deep thought of Romance, of Wit, of Travel, and of History. A list of Sir John Lubbock's Hundred Best books on application.

ENGINEERING BOOKS—
New Editions of Important Works on Civil, Electrical, and Mechanical Engineering are always available. Students in Science and Technology are requested to write for a New List of Books on these subjects.

LAW, MEDICINE, MILITARY—
The most recent Books on these subjects are supplied by return of Post.

EDITIONS DE LUXE.—
Choice Works for Presentation. They need specify no details here beyond calling attention to their latest additions. Victor Hugo's Complete Works, translated and finally illustrated, 23 Vols., Rs. 1,100. Large paper and a smaller edition at Rs. 500. Zola complete, 12 Vols., Rs. 240. Court Memoir Series, 19 Volumes, Rs. 190. Historic Memoir Series, 19 Volumes, Rs. 190. Nude in Art, Rs. 84-0. Casanova Memoirs, 12 Vols., Rs. 250.

MASONIC BOOKS.—
Standard Masonic Rituals, ensuring accurate uniform Working. Handsomely Printed and Strongly and Appropriately Bound. For Members of the Craft only.

COLONIAL LIBRARY.—
A New Series of Copyright Works in Fiction and General Literature designed to meet the ever-increasing demand in India for the best English Books at a price considerably under what is obtained for them at home. Full List now ready.

PRICE Re. 1-8 EACH VOLUME.

A Lost Illusion	Leslie Keith.
The Plan of Campaign	Mabel Robinson.
A Double Knot	G. Manville Fenn.
The Stone Dragon	Murray Gilchrist.
Jack's Father	W. E. Norris.
A Vicar's Wife	Evelyn Dickinson.
Jim B. A. Story	F. S. Carew.
A Reverend Gentleman	J. M. Cobban.
The Poison of Asps	R. Orton Prowse.
Alderdene	
Only a Guard-room Dog	Mrs. Cuthell.
Children of this World	Ellen F. Pinsent.
A Cavalier's Ladye	Mrs. Dicker.
Hepsy Gipsy	L. T. Meade.
Toddleben's Hero	M. M. Blake.
The Gods give my Donkey Wings	Angus Evan Abbott.
My Stewardship	E. M'Queen Gray.
My Land of Beulah	Mrs. Leith Adams.
Jaco Treloar	J. H. Pearce.

THE SECRET OF MADAME DE MONLAC.
By the Author of "Mdlle. Mori."

DUMPS.
By Mrs. Parr, Author of "Adam and Eve."

IN TENT AND BUNGALOW.
By the Author, of "Indian Idylls."

Messrs. THACKER & Co., Ld., draw attention to the exceptionally low Price at which the above Colonial Volumes are sold, viz., Re.1-8 per Volume. The ordinary Price for this series is Rs. 2-0 per Volume.

NOW READY.
CHARGE TO THE JURY
in the case of
The QUEEN-EMPRESS Vs. BAL GUNGADHAR and KESHAV MAHADEV BAL,
in the High Court of Bombay.
Revised and corrected by the Hon. Mr. Justice STRACHEY, with Appendix.
PRICE Rs. 2.

NEW YEAR CARDS—1898.

ARTISTIC, CHASTE, REFINED,
EMBRACING
Novel Combinations, new styles of Die stamping, specialities in Shapes, &c., &c.
Forming by far the most satisfactory Series of Christmas and New Year Cards that we have ever seen.

NOW READY,
AN ENTIRELY NEW SERIES OF
HAND-PAINTED CARDS.
NEW MATERIALS. NEW IDEAS. NEW DESIGNS.

RECOMMENDATIONS.
- THE PRESENT TASTE.
- ARTISTIC MERIT.
- REASONABLE IN PRICE.
- GENIAL AND HONEST IN SENTIMENT.
- THE PUBLIC LIKE THEM.

Messrs. Thacker and Co., Ld., have just received a large and beautiful collection from all the well-known manufacturers for the present season, at prices from Annas 2 to Rs. 10, and are prepared to send out selections on approval to known customers on the following conditions:—

1. The approximate number and value of the Cards required to be stated when ordering, and three or four times the quantity will then be sent for choice.
2. Cards not required to be returned at once.
3. Packages of returns to bear the Name and Address of the Sender on the Cover.

LETTS'S DIARIES, 1898.

These popular Diaries are now ready. The collection is as extensive and complete as usual. Send size in inches, and number of days on a page.

A TERRIBLE COUGH.
A TERRIBLE COUGH.
A TERRIBLE COUGH.

"94, Commercial Road, Peckham, July 12.

"Dear Sir,—I am a poor hand at expressing my feelings, but I should like to thank you. Your lozenges have done wonders in relieving my terrible cough. Since I had the operation of 'Tracheotomy' (the same as the late Emperor of Germany, and unlike him, thank God, I am still alive) performed at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, no one could possibly have had a more violent cough; it was so bad at times that it quite exhausted me. The mucous, which was very copious and hard, has been softened, and I have been able to get rid of it without difficulty.—I am, sir, yours truly, J. HILL."

A DOCTOR'S TESTIMONY.
A DOCTOR'S TESTIMONY.
A DOCTOR'S TESTIMONY.

"South Park, Cardiff, South Wales, Sept. 28, 1893.

"I have, indeed, great pleasure in adding my testimony to your excellent preparation of Cough Lozenges, and I have prescribed it now for the last eight years in my hospital and private practice, and found it of great benefit. I often suffer from Chronic Bronchitis; your Lozenge is the only remedy which gives me immediate ease. Therefore, I certainly and most strongly recommend your Lozenges to the public who may suffer from Catarrh, Bronchitis, Winter Cough, or any kind of Pulmonary Irritation.—Yours truly,

"A. GABRIEL, M.D., L.R.C.P., & L.M., Edinburgh L.R.C.S., & L.M., Edinburgh."

USE KEATING'S LOZENGES.
USE KEATING'S LOZENGES.
USE KEATING'S LOZENGES.

"IT IS 76 YEARS AGO" since KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES were first made, and the sale is larger than ever, because they are unrivalled in the relief and cure of Winter Cough, Asthma, and Bronchitis; one alone gives relief.

UTTERLY UNRIVALLED.
UTTERLY UNRIVALLED.
UTTERLY UNRIVALLED.

Keating's Cough Lozenges, the unrivalled remedy for COUGHS, HOARSENESS, and THROAT TROUBLES are sold in Tins by all Chemists.

WILL FORMS of DIFFERENT KINDS. Price 8 Annas. Can be had at the "Bombay Gazette" Office.

NOTICES.

THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF INDIA, LD.

SHORT PERIOD DEPOSITS.

THE busy Season having set in, this Bank is again prepared to RECEIVE DEPOSITS for 3, and 6 months on terms to be learned on application.

By Order,
C. BERESFORD,
Acting Manager.

Bombay, 13th October, 1897.

KHANDALLA CONVALESCENT HOME.

THE Committee of the European General Hospital Endowment Fund appeal to the Public for ASSISTANCE to complete the BUILDING of the CHILDREN'S WARD, at the Convalescent Home, Khandalla, for which purpose a sum of Rs. 10,000 (ten thousand) only is needed.

Subscriptions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by the Undersigned.

A. F. FERGUSON,
Hony. Secy., European General Hospital Endowment Fund.

Bombay Club, December, 1897.

NOTICE.

THE SANITARIUM FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN, AT NASIK ROAD.

THE Undersigned will gratefully acknowledge DONATIONS towards the ERECTION of 4 more COTTAGES (for EUROPEANS) which are greatly needed at the above Institution. A copy of the latest Report will be sent on application.

H. M. PHIPSON, Hon. Sec.,
Nasik Sanitarium.

6, Apollo Street, Bombay.

THE SWADESHI MILLS COMPANY, LTD.

Re—DEBENTURE LOAN OF 1890.

NOTICE is hereby given that of the subscribed portion of the above Debentures the following bearing the numbers hereunder given have been drawn for payment under the provisions for that purpose endorsed upon the Debentures, and the same will be paid off at the Company's Office, Victoria Buildings, Fort, on and after, the 30th day of December, 1897.

NUMBERS:—
13, 16, 19, 28, 34, 41, 62, 88, 118, 119, 137, 154, 156, 157, 161, 184, 192, 216, 225, 254, 279, 307, 328, 310, 338, 344, 346, 351, 367, 369, 373, 389, 408, 421, 428, 434, 432, 474, 464, 465, 475, 482, 490, 494, 510, 511, 513, 515, 521, 524, 535, 537, 538, 551, 557, 563, 570, 586, 606, 624, 639, 659, 665, 671, 677, 698, 708, 719, 728, 731, 732, 712, 758, 762, 763, 781, 788, 790, 801, 80 , 80 , 817, 840, 851, 869, 874, 881, 882.

TATA & SONS,
Agents, Swadeshi Mills Co., Ld.

Bombay, 22nd December, 1897.

BANK OF BOMBAY.

SAVINGS BANK.

THE BANK receives DEPOSITS on the following terms:—

Sums not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in the aggregate may be deposited within any one year from 1st January to 31st December.

Deposits may be made in the names of two or more persons, and the balance made payable to one or more of them or to the survivor or survivors.

Interest is allowed at the rate of two per cent. per annum on the minimum monthly balance not exceeding Rs. 5,000.

Copies of the Rules can be obtained on application at the Bank.

JAS. H. SLEIGH,
Secretary and Treasurer.

Bombay, 25th February, 1897.

MORVI STATE.

TENDERS are invited for the SUPPLY of the following PIPES, &c., for the Morvi State Water Works:—

About 1,300 tons Cast Iron Pipes from 4 to 12 inches diameter.
" 24 Specials.
" 60 Sluice Valves.

Further particulars as to conditions of contract and payment and time for submission of Tenders may be obtained upon application through the post to the State Engineer, Morvi, Kathiawar.

Applications for particulars will be received up to 7th January, 1898, and should be accompanied by Currency Note or Post office order for Rs. 20, which sum will be returned on receipt of a bona-fide Tender.

The State does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any Tender.

T. C. H. WHITE, C. E.,
State Engineer, Morvi.

LIST of ESTATES to which Letters of Administration have been granted to the Administrator-General, Bombay, and of Estates which have come under his charge:—

CHANDUNBAI, widow of MANOCKJEE JIJIBHAI, late of Bombay, Parsee inhabitant.
JOHN LAIDLAW, late a clerk in the Bombay Saw Mills and Timber Works, Byculla.
ALEXANDER RULE, late General Timekeeper, Locomotive and Carriage Department, B. B. and C. I. Railway, Parel.
RUSTOMJEE BOMONJI PASTAKIA, late of Bombay, Parsee Inhabitant.
EUSEBIO FRANCIS VIEGAS, late of Bombay, Portuguese Inhabitant.
Dr. MISS G. BUTLER, late of Bombay, European Inhabitant.
BHANJI BAPUBHAI, late of Bombay, Hindu Inhabitant.

All persons having claims against, being indebted to, or holding property belonging to the abovenamed estates are hereby requested to state their claims pay their debts and hand over such property to the undersigned forthwith. All claims must be sent to the undersigned at his office within one month from the date of this advertisement. At the expiration of the said period the assets of the estates will be distributed and claims received after that period will not be recognised.

LOUIS P. RUSSELL,
Acting Administrator-General.

Administrator-General's Office, High Court, Bombay, 18th December, 1897.

NOTICE.

WE the Undersigned have made over our BUSINESS in BOMBAY and CALCUTTA to W. CROWDER and COMPANY, LIMITED, from the 1st December, 1897.

W. CROWDER AND CO.,
28, Apollo Street, Bombay,
and 6 Commercial Buildings, Calcutta.

Bombay, December 22nd 1897.

NOTICE.

WE have been AGENTS in BOMBAY and CALCUTTA for W. CROWDER and COMPANY LIMITED, Bombay and Calcutta.

W. CROWDER AND CO.

Bombay, December 22nd, 1897.

QUICK ROUTE THROUGH AMERICA.

THE SAN FRANCISCO OVERLAND ROUTE,
THE PACIFIC MAIL S. S. Co.
OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL S. S. Co.
CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC AND CHICAGO AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAYS.

THE Fast and Magnificent Steamships of these Lines SAIL from HONGKONG via SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI (through the famous Inland Sea of Japan, KOBE, YOKOHAMA and HONOLULU to SAN FRANCISCO. Passengers selecting this route not only derive the benefit of the grand scenery of the Hawaiian Islands ("The Paradise of the Pacific") but also avoid the cold and disagreeable weather so often experienced on the more Northern Tracks.

Via the Central Pacific, Union Pacific and Chicago and North-Western Railways it requires but 4½ days to cross the American Continent through the finest scenery in the World. Solid vestibuled trains consisting of Pullman's Luxurious Double Drawing-room Sleeping Cars and Free Reclining Chair Cars, from San Francisco to Chicago without change. It is the line selected by the United States Government to carry the fast mail; it is much shorter than any other, gives passengers the choice of lines from Chicago to all Eastern Cities, and combines all the latest conveniences and luxuries evolved in modern Railway travel.

For further information apply to—

WHITNEY BROTHERS & Co., Calcutta,
THOMAS COOK & SON, Bombay and Calcutta,
KING, KING & Co., Bombay, or
T. D. McKAY,
General Passenger Agent,
San Francisco Overland Route,
No. 4, Water Street,
Yokohama, Japan.

KARACHI MUNICIPALITY.

DEBENTURE LOAN.

UNDER the Sanction of the Government of Bombay given in their Resolution No. 4300, dated 9th October, 1897, the Municipal Commissioners of the City of Karachi invite Tenders for a LOAN to the extent of ONE LAKH of RUPEES only.

2. Debentures will be issued for sums of Rupees Five hundred (500) or multiples of Five hundred, and will bear interest at the rate of four (4) per cent., payable half-yearly on the 1st June and 1st December.

3. The Loan will be repayable in six instalments, of which the first five shall be of Rs. 17,000 each, and the last of Rs. 15,000, the first of such instalments being payable at the expiration of 5 years from the date of issue, and the second and subsequent instalments at intervals of 5 years each, after the payment of the 1st instalment, making a total period of 30 years. The said instalments shall be payable as follows:—

Namely debenture of a total value equal to the amount of each instalment shall be drawn by lot by the Municipality and the debentures so drawn shall be repayable as herein before provided. Provided that the Municipality reserve to themselves the right at any time after the expiry of ten years from the date of issue, of repaying the whole or any less amount of the balance of the loan for the time being outstanding.

4. Instalments will be payable into the Bank of Bombay, Bombay, or Branches as follows:—
(25) Twenty-five per cent. on application.
(75) Seventy-five per cent. on allotment.

5. Interest will be calculated from the date of allotment.

6. If the said instalment of 75 per cent. is not paid within one month from the date of allotment, the amount paid on application will be forfeited and the allotment cancelled.

7. Sealed Tenders superscribed "Tenders for Karachi Municipal Loan" will be received up to 12 o'clock noon, on 31st January, 1898, by the Secretary and Treasurer, Bank of Bombay, Bombay, and the Agents of the said Bank at Karachi, Ahmedabad, Akola, Broach, Bhownuggur, Indore, Amraoti and Poona.

8. Forms of Tender can be obtained on application to the Bank of Bombay, Bombay, or Branches, or from the Municipal Office, Karachi.

9. The deposits on Tenders which have not been accepted, will be returned without interest.

10. The right of acceptance of Tenders will be with the Municipal Commissioners of the City of Karachi, who do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any tender.

TAHILRAM KHEMCHAND, President,
Karachi Municipality.

Karachi, 11th December, 1897.

KARACHI MUNICIPALITY.

DEBENTURE LOAN.

FORM OF TENDER.

I hereby Tender for Rs. of the Municipal Works Loan of one Lakh, advertised in the Municipal Notification, dated the 11th December, 1897, and published as printed overleaf, and I agree to pay for the same, subject to the conditions notified, at the rate of Rs. and annas for every hundred Rs. allotted to me.

I enclose for Rs. and engage, if my offer be accepted in whole or in part, to pay to the account of the Municipal Corporation at the Bank of Bombay, Bombay, or Branches, the second and final instalment of 75 per cent. on allotment.

Signature, ______
Address, ______
Date, ______

THE INDIAN RAILWAY GUIDE.—An indispensable Book for Travelers in India and the East, contains the Special Time and Fare Tables of all the Indian Railway Companies, the Steamer Routes in India, and the Eastern Seas, and other useful information. Price 8 Annas. Coloured Map of India revised from Official sources. To be had at the "Bombay Gazette" Office, and at all Booksellers and Railway Terminus.

WINES, SPIRITS, BEERS, &c.

CLUB WINES.

PHIPSON & Co., Bombay, are now supplying 230 Military Messes and 69 Clubs with the finest VINTAGE WINES, Spirits, or Liqueurs from the following well-known Houses:

POMMERY AND GRENO	Rheims.
VEUVE CLICQUOT PONSARDIN	Rheims.
WILLIAMS, HUMBERT & Co.	Jerez.
GEORGE TANQUERAY & Co.	London.
HEIDSIECK & Co.	Rheims.
CARSTAIRS & ROBERTSON	Leith.
PERRIER JOUET & Co.	Epernay.
PAGE AND SANDEMAN	London.
POL ROGER & Co.	Rheims.
BOLLINGER & Co.	Ay.
JAMES HAWKER & Co.	Plymouth.
JUSTERINI & BROOKS	London.
COCKBURN & CAMPBELL	Leith.
DEUTZ & GELDERMANN	Ay.
NATH JOHNSTON & SONS	Bordeaux.
J. SACCONE	Gibraltar.
COSSART, GORDON & Co.	Madeira.
A. DE LUZE ET FILS	Bordeaux.
BUTLER, NEPHEW & Co.	Oporto.
COCKBURN SMITHES & Co.	Oporto.
VAN-ZELLERS & Co.	Oporto.
WOODHOUSE & Co.	Marsala.
LEACOCK & Co.	Madeira.
AYALA & Co.	Ay.
RUINART PERE ET FILS	Rheims.
KIDD AND SHADBOLT	London.
P. J. VALCKENBERG	Worms.
C. MAREY & LIGER-BELAIR	Cotes d'Or.
J. & J. GRANT	Rothes.
ACKERMANN LAURANCE	Saumur
ANDREW ROWAN	Melbourne.
AUSTRALIAN WINE Co.	Melbourne.
JOS. DIETZL	Budapest.
R. SCHLUMBERGER	Voslau.
JAMES CATHCART & Co.	Leith.
CHAS. MACKINLAY & Co.	Leith.
JOHN CRABBIE & Co.	Leith
SIR ROBERT BURNETT & Co.	London.
J. & W. NICHOLSON & Co.	London.
W. E. EDDISON & Co.	London.
EMIL POHL & Co.	London.
W. DOYLE	London.
GEO. IDLE CHAPMAN & Co.	London.

Secretaries and Presidents of Clubs and Military Messes can now obtain Wines, Spirits, or Liqueurs, &c., from the above well-known Firms, without the inconvenience and expense of importing direct.

PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION TO

PHIPSON & Co.,
BOMBAY.

THE ASSOCIATED VINEYARD CULTIVATORS CO.'S BEEHIVE BRANDY.

THIS BRANDY is much approved in Great Britain, America, and Australia, and has been recognized for upwards of a century. It needs only to be tasted to be appreciated. Rs. 2-4 per Bottle.

WHAT FINER CAN YOU DRINK THAN
JOHN JAMESON
& SONS' (DUBLIN)
"OWN CASED" VERY OLD BLACK-BOTTLE
WHISKEY.

Please see you get it with

METAL CAPSULES
- BLUE.....One Star.
- PINK.....Two Stars.
- GOLD.....Three Stars.

OF ALL DEALERS.

Sole Export Bottling Agents to J. J. & S.:—

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY

TRADE THERAPION MARK.

This successful and highly popular remedy, as employed in the Continental Hospitals by Ricord, Rostan, Jobert, Velpeau, and others, combines all the desiderata to be sought in a medicine of the kind, and surpasses everything hitherto employed.

THERAPION NO. 1 in a few days only removes all discharges, effectually superseding injections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of stricture and other serious diseases. In dysentery, piles, irritation of the lower bowel, cough, bronchitis, asthma and some of the more trying complaints of this kind, it will be found astonishingly efficacious, affording prompt relief where other well-tried remedies have been powerless.

THERAPION No. 2, for impurity of the blood, scurvy pimples, spots, blotches, pains and swellings of the joints, secondary symptoms, disease of the bones, sore throat, and all diseases for which it has been too much a fashion to employ mercury, sarsaparilla, etc., to the destruction of the sufferer's teeth and ruin of health. This preparation purifies the whole system through the blood, and thoroughly eliminates every poisonous matter from the body.

THERAPION NO. 3 for nervous exhaustion, waste of vitality and all the distressing consequences arising from early error, excess, residence in hot, unhealthy climates, &c. It possesses surprising power in restoring strength and vigour at the debilitated.

THERAPION may be procured at 2s. 9d. and 4s. 6d. per package of all the principal Chemists and Merchants throughout the world. In ordering, the purchaser should state which of the three numbers he requires, and observe the above Registered Trade Mark, which is a facsimile of the word "THERAPION" as it appears on the Government Stamp (in white letters on a red ground) affixed to every genuine package by order of Her Majesty's Hon. Commissioners and without which it is a forgery.

BANKS.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid up Capital	$ 100,00,000
Reserve Fund	$ 7,000,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors	$ 100,00,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS AND HEAD OFFICE IN HONGKONG.

T. JACKSON, *Chief Manager*.

London Bankers.—LONDON and COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LD.

LONDON COMMITTEE:
E. F. DUNCANSON, Esq. (of Messrs. T. A. Gibb & Co.)
Wm. ANASTASIUS JONES, Esq. (Director of the London and County Banking Co., Limited).
F. D. BARNES, Esq. (Managing Director, P. & O. S. N. Co.

EWEN CAMERON, G. E. NOBLE, Managers.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES:—
LONDON HONGKONG, SHANGHAI.

AMOY.
BANGKOK.
BATAVIA.
BOMBAY.
CALCUTTA.
COLOMBO.
FOOCHOW.
HAMBURG.
HANKOW.
HIOGO.
ILOILO.
LYONS.
MANILA.
NAGASAKI.
NEW YORK.
PEKING.
PENANG.
RANGOON.
SAIGON.
SAN FRANCISCO.
SINGAPORE.
SOURABAYA.
TIENTSIN.
YOKOHAMA.

BOMBAY AGENCY.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts at 1 per cent. per annum on Daily Balances if not under Rs. 1,000, and not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000; but no interest is allowed when the sum accrued does not amount to Rs. 5 half-yearly.

Fixed Deposits received at 4 per cent. for 12 months, and for shorter periods, on terms which may be learnt on application.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every Description of Banking and Exchange Business transacted.

Drafts granted on London and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China, and Japan.

W. B. THOMSON,
Acting Agent.

40, Church Gate Street, Bombay, and at 2, Dalhousie Square South, Calcutta.

COMMERCIAL BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE:—MADRAS.

BRANCHES: London, Bombay, Calcutta, Rangoon, Kurrachee, Rawal Pindi, Murree.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL......Rs. 40,00,000
RESERVES AND REST......Rs. 14,73,230

NOTE.—The RESERVE FUND will be INCREASED to Rs. 16,00,000 on payment of Balance of new Capital.

LOCAL BOARD:—
FAZULBHOY VISRAM, Esq., C.I.E. | NOWROJEE JEHANGIR GAMADIA, Esq.
SASSOON J. DAVID.

RATES OF INTEREST ALLOWED AS UNDER.

STERLING DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS, FOR HOME REMITTANCES, 4 per cent. per annum.

FIXED DEPOSITS received at 5 per cent. per annum for 12 months.

SPECIAL RATES are given for short periods during the busy season only.

Monies are received into the BANK'S PRUDENTIAL OR PROVIDENT FUND bearing half-yearly compound interest at 4 per cent. per annum.

CHEQUES, BILLS, HUNDIES, AND CURRENCY NOTES of any Circle are collected and credited free of charge to the above Interest Deposit Accounts.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS received 2 per cent. per annum up to Rs. 10,000 in the event of the balance not falling below Rs. 500.

OPEN CREDITS AND LOANS are granted upon any marketable security. BILLS, PROMISSORY NOTES are discounted.

Investment orders executed on the London Stock Exchange under Code with London Bankers.

Apply for Rules to Head Office or Branches.

By Order of the Board,
C. BERESFORD,
Manager.

Bombay, 29th July, 1897.

COLD WEATHER HOSIERY & UNDERWEAR FOR GENTLEMEN.

	Rs.	as.
Pure Natural Wool Vests, 6 for	30	0
Do. do. Pants, 6 for	40	8
Do. do. Socks, 6 for	6	8

CASHMERE & MERINO HALF-HOSE,

	Rs.	as.
Striped and Plain Merino, per doz., from	15	0
Black and Navy Cashmere, per doz., from	11	4

BADHAM, PILE & CO., LD.,
BOMBAY.

THE EMPIRE OF INDIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LD.

HEAD OFFICE: 29, ESPLANADE ROAD, BOMBAY.

FIRST SEVEN MONTHS' BUSINESS
PROPOSALS FOR Rs. 11,00,000

INTENDING ASSURERS are invited to compare the RATES and CONDITIONS of the "EMPIRE OF INDIA LIFE OFFICE" with those of any other Company.

The premiums are so moderate that at most of the insuring ages the average premium at present charged by offices doing business in India for a Policy for Rs. 1,000 will secure in the "Empire of India Life Office" an Assurance of Rs. 1,200 to Rs. 1,300, the difference of Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 being equivalent to an increase in the sum assured of Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 per cent.

ANNUAL PAYMENTS REQUIRED FOR VARIOUS KINDS OF POLICIES.
FOR Rs. 1,000 (With Profits).

Age next Birth day.	Sum Assured payable at Death.				Sum Assured payable in		
	Premiums throughout Life.	Premiums limited to 25 years.	Premiums limited to 20 years.	Premiums limited to 15 years.	25 years or at Death if previous.	20 years or at Death if previous.	15 years or at Death if previous.
	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.
20	21 10	27 2	30 7	36 6	37 11	47 6	64 5
25	24 2	29 7	33 0	39 4	38 7	45 8	64 13
30	27 4	32 5	36 0	42 13	39 11	49 0	65 10
35	31 5	35 11	39 12	47 1	41 10	50 8	66 13
40	36 11	40 8	44 9	52 5	44 10	52 11	68 11
45	43 14	46 12	50 13	58 12	49 6	56 13	71 11

DISTINCTIVE FEATURES.

ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

All Funds invested in Government and other Securities, authorized by the Trust Act (II. of 1882).

In order to give greater security to the Policy-holders, it has been provided in the Articles of Association that two of the Members of the Board of Directors may be elected by the Policy-holders from amongst themselves, and thus have a voice in its Management. THIS CONCESSION IS NOT ALLOWED IN ANY OTHER PROPRIETARY INSTITUTION.

SURRENDER VALUES IN CASH OR FREE POLICY.

On participating Policies two-fifths (40 per cent.) and on non-participating Policies 35 per cent. of the total Premiums paid at the tabular rate.

Policies effected by Limited Number of Premiums and Endowment Assurances have a larger proportionate surrender value.

PROMPT PAYMENT OF CLAIMS.—Claims are payable immediately on receipt of satisfactory proof of death and title.

MEDICAL FEES AND POLICY STAMPS.—Are payable by the Company.

LOANS ON POLICIES.—Granted at six per cent. on the surrender value.

CHILDREN'S ENDOWMENTS.—All Premiums are returned in the event of the death of the Child.

Detailed Prospectus, Proposals, Reports and other particulars on application to

E. F. ALLUM, General Manager.

Active and energetic AGENTS and CANVASSERS WANTED all over India, Burma and Ceylon.

SPECIALTY IN WHISKY.

"AULD SCOTTIE."

Extract "Lancet" 12th July, 1890.
ANALYTICAL RECORDS.
AULD" SCOTTIE WHISKY.
(JAMES MENZIES, GLASGOW.)

"THIS WHISKY contains 41·75 per cent. of absolute Alcohol equal to 86·28 per cent. of proof Spirit. The Residue, Dried at 100° c amounts to 0·25 per cent. It is a well-matured and excellent Whisky."

"AULD SCOTTIE" GAINED THE HIGHEST AWARD AT THE WORLD'S FAIR, CHICAGO.

Every Bottle enveloped in Wire, and bearing the Firm's Seal in Lead.

This Whisky was the only brand placed on the table at the St. ANDREW'S DINNERS AT CALCUTTA 1890-91-92-93, and the verdict was one of unanimous approval. It has pushed its way on its own merits.

Can be had at Rs. 2-6-0 per bottle in Bombay from all Licensed Wine and Spirit Merchants

BANKS.

NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LD.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL ...£1,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL £500,000
RESERVE FUND £200,000

HEAD OFFICE:
47, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C.

BRANCHES:
Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Colombo, Kurrachee, Delhi, Rangoon, Mandalay, Tuticorin, Kandy, Newera Elya, Zanzibar, Steamer Point, Aden, Cawnpore and Mombassa.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

The Bank receives Deposits fixed for 1 year at 4½ per cent interest, and for shorter periods, at rates to be ascertained on application.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS are opened for approved Customers, and Interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances from Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 1,00,000, but no Interest is allowed when the sum accrued does not amount to Rs. 10 half-yearly.

BILLS OF EXCHANGE payable in the principal Cities of Europe, India, China, and Australia purchased or collected.

DRAFTS are granted on the Head Office and Branches of the Bank and on the principal Cities of Europe and Australia. Remittances may be made by telegram.

The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of Government Securities, Stocks, and Shares, and receives same for safe custody realising Interest and Dividends when due.

LOANS and CASH CREDITS granted on approved Securities

H. CHALMERS,
Manager.

THE AGRA BANK, LIMITED.

CAPITAL £600,000
RESERVE FUND ....£ 20,000

LONDON BANKERS.
THE BANK OF ENGLAND.
GLYN MILLS, CURRIE AND COMPANY.
NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND.
SCOTLAND.
NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND AND BRANCHES.
IRELAND.
PROVINCIAL BANK OF IRELAND AND BRANCHES.
BRANCHES
At Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Lahore, Kurrachee.
CORRESPONDENTS.

PARIS	The Anglo-Egyptian Bank, Ld.
SINGAPORE PENANG HONGKONG	Messrs. Boustead & Co.
	Messrs. Gilman & Co.
AUSTRALIA	Bank of Australasia and Branches.
COLOMBO	The Bank of Madras.
RANGOON	Bank of Bengal
AGRA	Alliance Bank of Simla, Ld.
DELHI	Bank of Bengal.

BOMBAY BRANCH.

ACCOUNTS CURRENT opened and Interest allowed when the Balance does not fall below Rs. 1,000.

FIXED DEPOSITS
Received on Terms to be learnt on application.

HOME REMITTANCE DEPOSITS for family and other remittances to Europe in the Bank's own Bills and Interest at 3 per cent. allowed thereon pending remittance.

Circular Notes issued negotiable in all the principal Towns in Europe, Securities received in safe custody and Interest and Dividends realised thereon.

LOANS granted on Government Paper or other convertible Securities; and APPROVED Bills discounted.

GOVERNMENT and other STOCKS and SHARES bought and sold, and the safe custody of the same undertaken.

INTEREST, PAY and PENSIONS collected; and every other description of Banking Business and Money Agency transacted.

SYDNEY L. WYATT, Manager.

COMPTOIR NATIONAL D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.

HEAD OFFICE:—14, Rue Bergere.
LONDON do:—Threadneedle Street, E.C.
LIVERPOOL AND MANCHESTER.

CAPITAL ...Fcs. 100,000,000 (£4,000,000).

LONDON BANKERS:—
BANK OF ENGLAND.
UNION BANK OF LONDON.

BRANCHES in all Principal Towns of France, Calcutta, Bombay, Tunis, San Francisco, Chicago, New Orleans, Melbourne, Sydney, Tamatave and Tananarive.

Current Deposit Accounts are opened, and Interest is allowed on Daily Balances from Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 1,00,000. Rates to be learnt on application.

Special arrangements may be obtained on application.

Deposit Accounts are Opened for Fixed Periods at rates to be ascertained on application.

Drafts and Letters of Credit issued payable at any of the chief Commercial Towns of the World.

The Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris beg to draw the attention of Travellers to its Letter of Credit Department in Paris at the Branch Office, 2, Place de l'Opera, in the very centre of the fashionable quarter of Paris, on the Boulevards facing the Grand Opera, and within easy reach of the principal Hotels, Theatres, and Shops.

Writing and Reading Rooms, Telephone, all necessary arrangements for receiving and despatching Correspondence, exchanging Money, letting Safes or parts thereof wherein travellers can deposit valuables which they do not wish to keep in the Hotels, further Strong Rooms for the storage of heavy luggage, etc.

Dividends, Coupons, etc., on Government Paper, and other Stocks cashed for Customers without charge if remitted Home through the Bank.

Loans and Cash Credits granted on Government Paper, Gold, Silver, and Produce.

H. JOLY,
Acting Manager.

BANKS.

CREDIT LYONNAIS.

ESTABLISHED 1863.

CAPITAL (fully paid) Fcs. 200,000,000=£8,000,000
RESERVE FUND...Fcs. 40,000,000=£1,600,000

BOMBAY BRANCH: ESPLANADE ROAD.
CENTRAL OFFICE: PARIS. HEAD OFFICE: LYONS.
BRANCHES in all the principal Towns of France and Algiers
LONDON OFFICE: 40, Lombard Street, E.C.
WEST END BRANCH: 4, Cockspur Street, S.W.
BRANCH IN CALCUTTA.

FOREIGN BRANCHES.

Alexandria, St. Petersburg, Madrid, Brussels, Constantinople, Cairo, Moscow, Barcelona, Geneva, Smyrna, Port Said, Odessa, Jerusalem.

THE CREDIT LYONNAIS, BOMBAY BRANCH, sells Drafts and Telegraphic Transfers on all parts of the world, negotiates and collects Bills and Coupons on the English and Foreign Towns.

Issues Letters of Credit.

Exchanges Foreign money, executes investment orders in Securities on all Indian, English, or Foreign Stock Exchanges, and gives information when required on Securities dealt in on the Leading Stock Exchanges.

Receives Securities for safe custody and collects interest or dividends on same on conditions to be arranged.

Grants advances in current account, or for fixed periods on Rupee paper, approved stock, shares, bullion, and produce.

Opens deposit accounts, allowing interest on the daily balances.

Receives fixed deposits on terms to be ascertained on application.

C. TROST,
Manager.

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL £1,500,000
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL....................£1,114,625
PAID-UP CAPITAL £562,500
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS £562,500

HEAD OFFICE:
40, Threadneedle Street, London, E. C.

LONDON BANKERS:
The Bank of England.
The London Joint Stock Bank.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES:
BOMBAY, CALCUTTA, MADRAS, COLOMBO, KANDY, GALLE, SINGAPORE, HONGKONG, and SHANGHAI.

The Bank negotiates and collects Bills and grants Drafts payable at its Head Office and Branches, and issues Letters of Credit for the use of Travellers.

The Bank receives Deposits on the following terms:—

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

Interest allowed at 2 per cent. on the daily balance if not under Rs. 1,000 and not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000. Sums over Rs. 1,00,000 will be received on terms to be ascertained on application.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

Fixed Deposits for 12 months at 4 per cent.

Rates for Deposits for shorter periods may be learned on application.

The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of Government Securities, Stocks and Shares and receives same for safe custody, realising interest and dividends when due.

J. K. MOIR,
Manager.

Elphinstone Circle, Bombay

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.

CAPITAL £800,000
RESERVE FUND............. £375,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS £800,000

HEAD OFFICE.
HATTON COURT, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON

AGENCIES AND BRANCHES:

Bombay.
Calcutta.
Rangoon.
Colombo.
Penang.
Thaiping.
Deli (Sumatra).
Singapore.
Bangkok.
Kwala Lumpor.
Batavia.
Sourabaya.
Hongkong.
Shanghai.
Hankow.
Foochow.
Manila.
Yokohama.
Kobe.
Tientsin.

The Corporation GRANT DRAFTS on the above Agencies and Branches; buy and receive for collection Bills of Exchange; issue Letters of Credit; and undertake general banking business.

FIXED DEPOSITS
are received for TWELVE MONTHS at FOUR AND A HALF PER CENT per annum and for SIX MONTHS at FOUR PER CENT per annum. Rates for shorter periods may be ascertained on application.

JOHN WILSON
Agent.

Bombay Agency, Elphinstone Circle.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LD.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL .... Yens 12,000,000
PAID UP CAPITAL .... " 3,000,000
RESERVE FUND .... " 5,860,000

HEAD OFFICE:—YOKOHAMA.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES:
Kobe, London, Lyons, New York, San Francisco, Hawaii, Shanghai, and Hongkong.

BANKERS—THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK; THE UNION BANK OF LONDON; THE PARR'S BANK, LIMITED.

BOMBAY AGENCY.

LIBERAL INTEREST allowed on CURRENT ACCOUNT, and FIXED DEPOSITS, on Terms to be learnt on application.

CREDITS granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange Business transacted.

DRAFTS granted on JAPAN, and the Chief Commercial places in the World.

Y. MATSUO,
Acting Agent.

Sirdar's Palace, Apollo Street, Fort, Bombay.

INSURANCES.

UNIVERSAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

ESTABLISHED 1834.

NEW AND LARGELY REDUCED PREMIUMS.

THE attention of intending Assurers is directed to the following special features of this Society:—

LARGE CASH RESERVES.
ANNUAL CASH BONUSES.
MODERATE RATES OF PREMIUM.

ENDOWMENT POLICIES issued payable on attaining the age of 45, 50, or 55, or previous, in event of death.

For copies of the new Prospectus apply to

KING, KING & Co.,
Agents and Secretaries

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

TOTAL INVESTED FUNDS EXCEED £12,000,000 Stg.

LIFE ASSURANCE WITH ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

AT MODERATE RATES.

Policy for Rs. 5,000 payable at Death only.		Policy for Rs. 5,000 payable at age 55 or Death if it occurs sooner.		Policy for Rs. 5,000 payable at age 60 or Death if it occurs sooner.	
Age next Birthday.	Monthly premium.	Age next Birthday.	Monthly premium.	Age next Birthday.	Monthly premium.
	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
25	11 8 0	25	15 7 0	25	13 12 9
30	12 12 0	30	18 6 0	30	16 0 0
35	14 3 0	35	22 13 0	35	19 1 9
40	16 1 0	40	30 1 0	40	25 10 0

Rates for other ages and under other systems will be supplied on application.

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The LARGE REVERSIONARY BONUS, of 35s. per cent. per annum, or £8-15 per cent. for the quinquennium has been declared at each valuation and compares favourably with that of the very best Proprietary or Mutual Companies.

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THREE IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT THE STANDARD LIFE OFFICE.

1.—OVER HALF A MILLION STERLING per annum is being paid in Death Claims year by year.

2.—THE FUNDS IN HAND amount to nearly Seven and three-quarter Million Sterling, and have increased 50 per cent. in the last 15 years.

3.—THE LIVES who die are annually replaced by more than double the number of new carefully selected lives.

F. A. PREVOST,
Secretary, Bombay Branch.

N.B.—POLICIES ISSUED IN RUPEES OR IN STERLING.

"FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE."

CLARKE'S WORLD-FAMED BLOOD MIXTURE

THE GREAT BLOOD PURIFIER & RESTORER

FOR CLEANSING and CLEARING the BLOOD from ALL IMPURITIES it cannot be too highly recommended.

For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Skin and Blood Diseases, and Sores of all kinds, it is a never-failing and permanent Cure. It
Cures Old Sores.
Cures Sores on the Neck.
Cures Sore Legs.
Cures Blackhead or Pimples on the Face.
Cures Scurvy.
Cures Ulcers.
Cures Blood and Skin Diseases.
Cures Glandular Swellings.
Clears the Blood from all impure Matter,
From whatever cause arising.
It is a real specific for Gout and Rheumatic pains.
It removes the cause from the Blood and Bones.

As this Mixture is pleasant to the taste and warranted free from anything injurious to the most delicate constitution of either sex, the Proprietors solicit sufferers to give it a trial to test its value.

Translation of letter from Fiji.

The Letter of Jonathan to Mr. Dunsford.

"My Friend.—I write to you to-day to tell you about my illness. I love you very much to-day because of the medicine you gave to me. Three months I was very ill, truly, because of my legs. I could not plant yams, I could not go fishing, I could not eat or sleep; but now I am quite well again. It is truly a wonderful medicine. I beg you, Mr. Dunsford, give me one more bottle, as the month of boils is near.

"Preparation Day (Saturday), Bua, Vanua Levu."

Explanation of above Letter.

"In Fiji, at certain times of the year, both the European residents and the natives themselves break out in boils, which, if not immediately seen to, not infrequently develop into terrible running sores. At these times I can conscientiously assert that I know of no better medicine than 'Clarke's Blood Mixture,' which I have used with unfailing success both among my white and black neighbours. The enclosed letter from 'Jonathan,' a Christianised Fijian, speaks for itself. For three months he had been almost a cripple, and yet one of your large bottles completely set him up. In ordinary cases even a lesser quantity will effect a cure.—I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

"T. EDGCUMBE DUNSFORD.

"16 Leicester-square, London, W.C.,
"21 June, 1892."

THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

Clarke's Blood Mixture is sold in Bottles 2s. 9d. each, and in cases containing six times the quantity, 11s.—sufficient to effect a permanent cure in the great majority of long-standing cases, BY ALL CHEMISTS and PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS throughout the world. Proprietors: THE LINCOLN AND MIDLAND COUNTIES DRUG COMPANY, Lincoln, England. Trade Mark—"BLOOD MIXTURE."

CLARKE'S BLOOD MIXTURE

CAUTION.—Purchasers of Clarke's Blood Mixture should see that they get the genuine article. Worthless imitations and substitutes are sometimes palmed off by [illegible]. The words "Lincoln and Midland C[illegible] Lincoln, England," are engraved on [illegible] "Clarke's World-famed Blood M[illegible]" WITHOUT WHICH NONE A[illegible]

NO[illegible]

INDIAN LA[illegible]
FOR PRINC[illegible]
[illegible]
TOD[illegible]
Price, Re. 1.

Digitized with financial assistance from the Government of Maharashtra on 07 July, 2017

OMBAY.

TO-DAY.

...h. 21m. Sun sets, 5h. 30m. High water, ...s. Low water, 6-20m., 5-36a.
...Day: Banks closed.
...mas Dinners, Sailors' Home, Government ...rkhouse, Strangers' Friend Society, etc.

TO-MORROW.

Sun rises, 6h. 21m. Sun sets, 5h. 30m. High water, 0-32m., 0-59a. Low water, 7-6m., 6-42a.
P. and O. s. s. Carthage, with English mails of the 10th instant, due to arrive, daylight.
Bombay Foxhounds meet at Shahar.

MONDAY.

Sun rises, 6h. 22m. Sun sets, 5h. 31m. High water, 1-37m., 1-50a. Low water, 7-51m., 7-28a.
Christmas holidays: Banks closed.

POSTAL NOTICE.—Mails for Colombo, Penang, Singapore, China, and Japan, per s. s. Amphitrite, will be closed at the General Post Office, at 8 a.m., on Monday.

SEAMEN'S INSTITUTE.—In connection with St. Nicholas' Church, an evening "At Home" for seamen will be held on Thursday, 30th instant, commencing at 8 o'clock.

SPORTS FOR CHILDREN.—The annual Red Cross Club's sports for children will be held in the Baretto School compound, Cavel, on Monday, the 27th instant, commencing at 3 p.m.

EVENING PARTY TO THE NEW SHERIFF.—The evening party, to be held in honour of Sheth Adamji Peerbhoy, J.P., the Sheriff of Bombay, by the high priest of the Borah community, is postponed to Wednesday, the 29th instant.

LECTURE.—Mr. Nasarvanji Framji Billimoria will deliver a public lecture in Gujerati, at the New Parsee Fire Temple, to-morrow (Sunday), at 4-30 p.m. Subject: "The Sublime Philosophy of the worship of the Holy Fire." The head priest of the Parsis, Dastur Saheb Jamaspji, will preside.

THE PARSEE CYCLING CLUB.—Members with their friends meet to-morrow (Sunday), at Sir R. Temple's Statue, at 6-30 a.m., and at Hornby Villard, at 7 a.m., for a ride to Cooria and back. Further information can be had from the honorary secretary, Mr. Dossabhoy Muncherji Wadia, "Wadia Buildings," Fort.

CALENDARS.—Messrs. Clifford and Co., late Messrs. J. B. Danovar and Co., advertising agents of Church Gate Street, issue a blotting-pad calendar with perforated sheets for each month in the year.—The Singer Manufacturing Company send a wall calendar containing different sheets for each month of 1898 and a complete calendar for 1899. Upon it are views of two of the seven large factories of the company.—Messrs. Dinshaw M. Dastur and Co. issue a calendar with a pretty picture of Love in a Barrow.

ORPHEAN DRAMATIC CLUB.—The Bombay playgoers, who prefer light comedy with plenty of fun interspersed, will be glad to hear that the Orpheans intend putting on the boards, on the 18th and 20th January, at the Novelty Theatre, one of Toole's great pieces, called "Going It." We hear the rehearsals are going off most successfully, and as the cast is a judicious one we anticipate much pleasure in witnessing the performance.

BURNT TO DEATH.—A coroner's inquiry was held yesterday, at the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, respecting the death of Gowlee, aged ten years, daughter of a Purdasee milkman, named Kisson, residing at Picquet Road. On Thursday afternoon, the deceased was seated near the fire-place in the house, and was fanning the fire with her saree to set ablaze, when the saree caught fire and she was extensively burnt all over the body. She was conveyed to the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, where her burns were dressed and was detained under treatment. But she never recovered from the shock sustained by the burns, and died at 4 o'clock, yesterday morning. The jury brought in a verdict of accidental death.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A STONE MASON.—An inquiry was held, yesterday, by Mr. Turner, the coroner, at the J. J. Hospital, on view of the body of one Krishna Pandoo, a Hindu labourer, aged thirty years. The deceased resided at Madanpoora, and was employed in the quarry, owned by Mr. K. B. Chowksey, at Sewree Cross Road. About 5 o'clock in the evening of the 10th instant, the deceased was breaking some stones at the quarry, when a chip of stone flew off the stone which was being broken, and hit the deceased on the index finger of the left hand, causing a small wound. Krishna went home and applied some household remedies to the wound, and went to work as usual the next morning. On the evening of the 22nd instant, his whole hand began to swell, and he complained of stiffness in his neck and difficulty of swallowing his food. He went of his own accord to the J. J. Hospital, where it was discovered that symptoms of tetanus had developed. He grew worse and died on the evening of the following day. A verdict of death from tetanus was returned by the jury.

CANDIDATES FOR THE JUSTICES' ELECTION.—The last day for sending in nominations of candidates for election by the Justices of the Peace as their representatives on the Municipal Corporation, has been fixed for the 31st January, the election being fixed for the 7th February. The following 19 candidates have already come forward for election for the 16 seats at the Justices' disposal:—The Hon. Mr. P. M. Mehta, C.I.E.; Mr. Fardunjee Sorabjee Taleyarkhan; Mr. Hormusjee Cursetjee Coorlawalla; the Hon. Mr. Chimonlal Harilal Setalwad; Mr. Pestonjee Nasarwanjee Wadia; Mr. Darashah Ruttonjee Chichgar; Mr. Jamsetjee Cursetjee Jamsetjee; Mr. Jamsetjee Cursetjee Cama; Dr. Edward F. Underwood; Mr. Shivram Vithal Bhandarkar; Mr. Palkhosroo N. Kabrajee; Mr. Eknath Raghunath Khote; Dr. Dinshaw Bomanjee Master; Mr. Hasambhoy Visram; Mr. Kallabhai Lallubhai; Dr. Cowasjee Hormusjee; Mr. J. L. Britto; Dr. Fardunjee Nasarwanjee Bisney; and the Hon. Mr. D. A. Khare.

DEATH FROM HYDROPHOBIA.—Mr. Allan F. Turner, the coroner, held an inquiry, yesterday, at Nowroji Hill (north) touching the death of Jaggonath Laximon Narayen, aged fifty years, a rent-collector employed in the service of Mr. Graham, the landlord of the house at Graham's naka, and residing at the 1st Lane, Nowroji Hill. About three months ago the deceased was bitten by a rabid dog on the index finger of his right hand. He, however, continued his work of collecting rent on behalf of his master, and was seen all right until Monday last, on the evening of which day he was heard crying like a dog by a fellow-tenant, who went to the deceased's room, and looking through the crevice of the door, found him lying on the floor in convulsive fits. His master, Mr. Graham, was informed, and he brought Dr. King, who examined the deceased and found him suffering from hydrophobia. Dr. King prescribed for the deceased, who continued in that state until Thursday last, when he died about noon. The jury brought in a verdict of death from hydrophobia.

THANA NEWS.—Our local correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—Rao Saheb Moreshwar Keshav Kanekar, B.A., is appointed Probationary Mamlatdar at Bassein, in the Thana Collectorate. Rao Bahadur Anna Gopal Kotwal, Huzur Deputy Collector and First Class Magistrate, Thana, has been invested with the powers under section 8 of the Reformatory Schools Act, to send the juvenile offenders to the Reformatory School of Bombay. The camp of Mr. R. P. Barrow, Collector and District Magistrate of Thana, is at Bhewndi at present. Mr. Barrow, in company with the Mamlatdar of Bhewndi, visited the Urdu School at the village of Borivli, in the taluka, last week. He examined the Musalman boys of the school, and was pleased with the progress they had made in reading and writing, and spoke in high terms of the schoolmaster, Moonshee Meer Dawood Saheb, for his taking great interest in teaching the boys. After the examination the Collector distributed sweetmeats to the boys of the school.—The Thana Municipality intend to increase the house-tax from the ensuing year to meet the charges towards the liquidation of the debt incurred on account of the bubonic plague at Thana. It is stated that the plague is diminishing in the Kalyan and Panvel talukas. There were forty-two persons under observation at the Interception Camp, at Thana, yesterday.

A BURGLAR AND HIS ACCOMPLICES.—Before Mr. P. H. Dastur, Fourth Presidency Magistrate, at the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, Constable Cordeaux prosecuted Dhugdoo Rama, an old offender, Rauoo Rama and Poondlick Baloo, charging No. 1 with house-breaking by day with intent to commit theft, and Nos. 2 and 3 with aiding and abetting No. 1 in the commission of the offence. On the morning of the 22nd instant, a Hindu woman, named Suckoo, residing on the second floor of a house at Doorgadevie, locked the door of her room and went to work. About 1 o'clock in the afternoon, one Rama Baloo, a neighbour, heard some noise in the complainant's room and at the same time a woman, named Jivee, also a resident of the house, raised an alarm that some thieves were attempting to break into the complainant's room. Rama and Jivee both came out of the house, and noticed the first accused wrench the lock off the door by means of a nail, and Nos. 2 and 3 standing on the road outside, keeping a watch. Rama secured the first accused, but his accomplices succeeded in making their escape good. The complainant, on being informed, returned home, examined the room, and found everything intact, except the lock on the door, which was wrenched off. The police upon inquiries arrested the absconding accused at Falkland Road on the same evening. It was then ascertained that the three accused had on the previous day purchased an iron nail from the shop of a Borah, named Mahomed Ali, for two annas. His Worship sentenced No. 1, against whom there were two previous convictions, to two years' rigorous imprisonment, No. 2 to six months, and No. 3, who had been in jail once before, to nine months' like punishment.

NASIK SANITARIUM FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

In response to an appeal for subscriptions towards the erection of some more cottages, suitable for Europeans, in connection with this institution, the following amounts have already been received:—

	Rs.
Mrs. S. D. Sassoon	100
Sir George Cotton	200
... Anderson	50
... Kirkpatrick	50
... H. Snow, I.C.S.	20
...arles Olliva...	100
... Phips...	[illegible]
...ochb...	[illegible]

THE NATU BROTHERS.

PRESIDENCY ASSOCIATION INTERVENING

THE Bombay Presidency Association has addressed the following letter to the Chief Secretary, Government of Bombay, on the subject of the detention of the Natu Brothers:—

Sir,—We are directed by the Council of the Bombay Presidency Association to invite most respectfully the attention of His Excellency the Governor in Council to the following representation with reference to the arrest and detention of the Natu brothers of Poona under Regulation XXV. of 1827.

The Council may be permitted to say that nothing is farther from its mind in submitting this representation than to appear in the least to embarrass the action of Government, and it was its earnest desire to avoid even the possibility of its action being misconstrued in this way, and the firm belief that Government would at an early date place before the public facts that would amply justify the exceptional measure adopted by them that induced it to refrain till now from submitting any memorial in the matter. The Council, however, now feels constrained to think that its duty to Government and the public requires that it should now approach Government on the subject.

The Regulation in question empowers Government to keep in restraint individuals without bringing them to trial in certain grave emergencies, viz., when the maintenance of the alliances formed by the British Government with foreign powers and the preservation of tranquillity in the native states are threatened or when the British dominions are in a state of insecurity from foreign hostility or internal commotion.

The Council ventures to submit that, however, necessary powers so repugnant to the British constitution may have been in the days of the infancy of British rule when the Regulation was enacted, the public confidently believed that, after nearly three-quarters of a century of British rule, its foundations were so well and deep laid, both in its own strength and in the loyalty and contentment of the people that, except on the occasion of imminent foreign war or serious internal commotions, Government would never exercise these exceptional powers; and the Council regrets that the generous policy hitherto pursued has been abandoned in the present instance and Government has had recourse, in a time of peace, to the letter of the law in a way not sanctioned by its spirit.

The Secretary of State for India in his speech in the House of Commons on the 2nd of August described this Regulation 'as a reserve of power for times of emergency' for dealing with 'exceptional difficulties' and sought to justify the retention of the Regulation on the Statute Book on the ground that the Government of India cannot, like other Governments, have recourse to special legislation when the circumstances of the times made it necessary. The Council submits that in this respect the Government of India enjoys facilities and powers of legislation which no other Government can command, and it has exercised these powers repeatedly. The events of the past five months have proved that there was no ground for the apprehension entertained of an exceptional emergency justifying the exercise of these powers, and under the altered circumstances of the country, the Council would beg to suggest that the regulation might safely make room for special legislation of the kind to which other Governments have recourse, whenever public interests might demand such temporary suspension of laws in particular tracts of the country.

The Secretary of State in the House of Commons on the 2nd of August last made the following declaration concerning these arrests:—"The two native gentlemen who had been arrested were notorious men, and this was not the first time that they had been brought before the notice of the public. We believed that the authorities at Bombay were within their rights in the action which they had taken, and that the result of the proceedings would be to unravel the plot that had been formed."

In answer to a question put at the meeting of the Legislative Council on the 20th instant, His Excellency the Governor was pleased to say that the Natu brothers "were placed under restraint for reasons of State touching the security of a portion of the British dominions from internal commotion," and that "action under the law in question implies that, in the language of the Regulation, judicial proceedings are either not adapted to nature of the case or are inadvisable or improper." The Council gathers from this answer that Government do not intend to put them on their trial.

The Council ventures to submit that the present times are, to quote the words of the learned Chief Justice, "of profound peace," and that any attempt to threaten the security of the British dominions by means of internal commotion can be effectively dealt with under the ordinary criminal law.

The Council advisedly refrains from discussing the question of the guilt or innocence of the Natu brothers. It feels that His Excellency in Council, in exercising the exceptional powers under the Regulation, must have had before him sufficient and definite information. The Council, however, begs to submit that it would have been better if Government had resorted to the ordinary laws which could, in its opinion, have effectively dealt with every conceivable state of things instead of having recourse to a regulation enacted as early as 1827, the very existence of which, owing to the settled times brought about by the beneficent rule of nearly seventy-five years, was forgotten. The Council, therefore, in conclusion, prays that His Excellency in Council will be pleased to bring the Natu brothers to trial under the ordinary laws. We have, &c.,

DINSHA EDULJI WACHA,
N. G. CHANDAVARKAR,
AMIRUDIN TYEBJI,
Hony. Secretaries, Bombay Presidency Association.

ADDRESSES TO THE HON. DR. BHALCHANDRA KRISHNA.

A MEETING was held at Angria's Wady, Kalbadavie Road, on Thursday evening, when two addresses were presented to the Hon. Dr. Bhalchandra Krishna, congratulating him on his elevation to the Bombay Legislative Council. The first address was presented in the name of members of the native community, and native vaiyads and doctors; and the second in the name of the medical profession only. Shri Devkinand Maharaj was called to the chair. Among other persons present at the meeting were: Dewan Bahadur Manibhai Jasbhai, Shrimant Vinayekrao Dhundiraj Bhivalkar, Vaiyads Parbhuram Jivanram, Ballashunker Bawabhoy, Jattashunker Vithaljee Bhat, Jattashankar Premjee, Pathak Gangashankar Madanjee, Manishankar Govindjee, Shankar Dajee Shastree Padde, Veljee Callianjee, Lokumidas Goverdhan, Somjee Jayakrishna Dwarkavalla, Swami Javaiadas, Mabidhur Purshotam, Dr. Popat Prabhuram, Messrs. Lukhmidas Khimjee, Goverdhandas Sunderdas Muljee, etc.

Vaiyad Gungashunkar Madanjee Pathak read the joint address from the native community, doctors, and native vaiyads. It referred to the study of native medicine by Dr. Bhalchandra under his father in his young age; to the study of English medicine in the Grant Medical College; to his nomination as Justice of the Peace, and other honours; and finally to the high honour of a member of the Legislative Council. The address also alluded to the public measures in which Dr. Bhalchandra had taken a prominent part in the interests of the native community.

Dr. Popat Prabhuram read the address of the native medical profession, in which gratification was expressed at the fact of an ornament of the profession like Dr. Bhalchandra being honoured with a seat in the Legislative Council. The profession was sure to derive benefit from his presence in Council. Regret was expressed at the unfair distinction which the Municipality and Government made between doctors and vaiyads, and a hope was expressed that Dr. Bhalchandra would be the means, in his new capacity, of obtaining redress for the injustice done to native vaiyads, and of bringing to the notice of medical gentlemen the efficacy of native drugs and medicines. It was suggested that Government should be asked to place one or two wards in the Bombay hospitals in charge of competent vaiyads and watch the result thereof, to give encouragement to the study of native medicine, and to employ vaiyads in villages, the researches of which could not afford to pay for the services of trained medical men. Dr. Popat said that the appointment of Dr. Bhalchandra was the first of its kind in the native medical profession. In this Presidency much valuable work was done by vaiyads, but as Government gave them no encouragement, their status remained low and unrecognised. The medical profession, he said, regarded Dr. Bhalchandra as an ornament to it.

On the motion of Vaiyad Parbhuram Jivanram, seconded by Vaiyad Manishankar Govindji, the chairman placed the addresses in a velvet case and presented them to Dr. Bhalchandra.

Dr. Bhalchandra, in his reply, said he would consider the addresses as a lifelong obligation conferred upon him. It was the impression of some natives that a man, by his appointment to the Legislative Council, was invested with authority to do anything and everything, to transfer Bombay to Calcutta and Calcutta to Bombay—(A laugh),—but the impression, he said, was wrong. He considered it his duty to thoroughly study the subjects that came before the Council, and to place before it a fair representation of the views and feelings of the native community. Anybody who thought himself incapable of doing so was not fit for a seat in the Council. It would have been more opportune, Dr. Bhalchandra thought, to have presented the addresses to him at the close of his term in Council if his work was such as to meet with their approbation. (Hear, hear.) He would, however, do all he could during his term of two years. (Applause.)

The chairman said there was nothing wrong in presenting the addresses at the present time; for the future glory of a man was sometimes discernible in the cradle. They all knew Dr. Bhalchandra's worth and his praiseworthy antecedents, which promised to be fruitful of good results during his term of office as a member of the Legislative Council. (Applause.)

The chairman and Dr. Bhalchandra were decorated with garlands of flowers; and the proceedings terminated with the distribution of flowers and pan-sopari.

THE NORTH-EAST MONSOON AT COLOMBO.

WRECKS AND DAMAGE.

BESIDES the wreck of the two native craft and cargo lighters in harbour early in the week, the new steam launch 'Banshee' of the P. & O. Company, met with an accident on Thursday morning, owing to the choppy state of the harbour. She struck violently against the passenger jetty whilst backing from her moorings, and a portion of the stern was badly damaged, and the vessel was strained as a result.

The inquiry into the wrecks of the two native vessels will be held by Mr. W. H. Jackson, Receiver of Wrecks, at the Customs on Monday, at 10 a.m. The owners have lost all they had in the vessels, and whatever was salved was of no use, being ...rated and spoiled by the sea water. It is said ... the owners of the dhony, which was about to ... and which was dragged from her moorings by ...sel which first drifted from the quarantine ... are about to take legal proceedings against ...ers of the other vessels to recover their ...—*Times of Ceylon* (Dec. 18).

—FOR THE TEETH AND BREATH. A few ... liquid "Floriline" sprinkled on a wet tooth-... a pleasant lather, which thoroughly cleanses ... all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, ... stops decay, gives to the teeth a peculiar ... and a delightful fragrance to the breath. It ... unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth or ... The Fragrant Floriline, being composed ... and sweet herbs, is delicious to the taste, ... discovery of the age. Price 2s. 6d. ... Perfumers. Wholesale Depot: 33, Farringdon Road, London.

THE JOURNAL OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

THE new number of the *Journal* of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, writes a correspondent, is the first edited by the new honorary secretary, the Rev. R. M. Gray, and he may be congratulated on having issued an interesting though somewhat thin number. It follows its predecessor after more than sixteen months, certainly too long a period for producing a hundred pages of original matter. The chief complaint hitherto against the journal is its great irregularity. And the new secretary cannot distinguish his tenure of office better than by removing the cause of this complaint and by otherwise putting the journal on a sound basis. The first thing that should be done is to make it a regular periodical appearing at fixed periods of, say, six months. The journal can with good effect widen its scope, and besides contributing to original research, its own share, can record the progress of scholarship and research made by the other Oriental societies. Noteworthy works produced in its own field during the six months may be noticed by the members who take an interest in such things. Then much excellent matter can be gleaned from the newspaper press which would deserve a permanent place in such a journal and be thus rescued from the oblivion of cumbrous files. The journal should also be made a convenient and appropriate channel of communication between scholars by inviting literary correspondence and discussion. The society has enough funds also to devote to the journal. I find from the statement of accounts given in the number before me that out of a total expenditure of Rs. 15,000 only Rs. 862 were spent on the journal, which is only Rs. 180 more than what was spent on the binding and repairing of books in the library. Now, this is certainly what should not be, especially as the Government grant of Rs. 4,200 is given for furthering original research. A much larger part of this grant than the present one-fifth should be devoted to the publishing of the journal. The new number commences with the historical paper of Mr. Karkaria on "Akbar and the Parsis," which is marked by critical acumen. The Rev. J. G. Abbot gives another interesting historical paper on the inscription on the famous "Thin Durvaza" or Triple Gateway at Ahmedabad. A lengthy survey of Indian logic by Mr. Bodas is a contribution to the knowledge of an important branch of Hindu philosophy. Mr. Bhagwat in his paper takes us to the early Vedic times and gives us a glimpse of the process by which the Dravidian and other non-Aryan races and tribes were first organised and made the staunch adherents of this old Brahmanic creed. All these four papers are valuable contributions to Asiatic research and knowledge, and the society deserves the thanks of orientalists for publishing them.

COOKERY EXAMINATION OF PARSEE GIRLS.

A VISIT FROM LADY SANDHURST.

THE annual examination of the pupils of the Parsee Girls' Schools Association in domestic economy and cookery, took place on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons at the Albless Baug, Girgaum. H. E. Lady Sandhurst being present on Thursday afternoon. In the marquee erected in the extensive compound of the Baug were accommodated about a thousand Parsee ladies, there being also a sprinkling of European and Hindu ladies, among whom were observed Mrs. Candy, Mrs. (Dr.) Peche-Phipson, Mrs. Slater, the two Misses Dumayne, Lady Jehangir Cowasjee Jehangir, Mrs. M. G. Ranade, Mrs. Wadia, and lady members of several well-known Parsee families in the city. The spacious hall of the Baug and the marquee were decorated with palm leaves and flowers and evergreens, and a Portuguese Band played a selection of music near the main entrance. H. E. Lady Sandhurst, who was attended by an A.-D.-C. of H. E. the Governor, was received at the main gate by Mr. K. R. Cama, president, and Mr. D. R. Chichgar, honorary secretary of the committee, of the Association, who escorted her Ladyship to her seat in the marquee. The honorary secretary distributed to the ladies present papers containing a brief history of the institution, showing that the Association was established about 39 years ago by the pioneers of Female Education in Western India, most of whom have now passed away. The Association has three schools—one in the Fort, another at Mazagon, and the third at Chandanwady. The Endowment Funds of the Association, contributed by generous lady and gentleman donors, aggregate to over one lakh thirty thousand rupees. The building for the Fort School was presented by the late much-lamented Mr. Sorabjee Shapoorjee Bengalee, C.I.E., in the name of his mother Bai Bhicajee Shapoorjee Bengalee at a cost of over one lakh of rupees. The schools teach from the infant class upwards to the highest Guzerathi standard, and have lately added to them English classes for which a separate fund has been established.

The education is imparted in the lower standards on Kindergarten principles, while in the higher standards the teaching is done on the Kindergarten system modified and extended on the Herbertian principles. The several subjects—Arithmetic, Geography, Reading, Writing, History, Science, &c.—are all taught on these methods, for which a complete collection of Kindergarten apparatus, charts, pictures, objects, models, &c., is available. This is the first, and, perhaps, the only school, where teaching on Kindergarten principles and methods is, to any large extent, adopted. The success of the Institution may be fairly judged from the fact that Native States and Educational Committees from different parts of the country have solicited advice from the promoters of this Institution, and several of them have sent their teachers or nominees to visit and get instruction at this Institution in Kindergarten and Herbertian methods of teaching. The success can also be gauged from the sympathy which many European lady visitors have expressed from time to time.

Miss Mary Frances Billington, who during a brief sojourn in Bombay about four years ago visited the school, writes in her book on Indian Travels as follows about the schools:—"The Kindergarten formed a large department, and in no London school or institution have I ever seen one better equipped and supplied than this. Its completeness is largely due to Mr. D. R. Chichgar, a Parsee gentleman, who has visited both England and Germany in order to study western developments most likely to be of use for his own people." In the three main halls of the Baug were displayed the entire Kindergarten apparatus and the works in drawing, embroidery, &c., the handiwork of the pupils of the institution.

The proceedings were opened by some of the girls singing an ode to the accompaniment of an harmonium composed in honour of Lady Sandhurst, whom they accorded a cordial welcome. Some of the infants then went through the may-pole drill and other exercises which elicited the applause of the assembly. Some of the elderly pupils then sang a *gurbee* song moving in a circle and beating time with their hands, while others showed their dexterity in winnowing the husk and the chaff from wheat and rice. The pupils of higher classes were then examined in the art of selecting milk and other articles of food, garden vegetables, fuel, coal and charcoal, and their knowledge in invalid and convalescent cookery was put to a severe test. The girls were also examined by Doctors T. B. Nariman, Fakirjee Ratanji and Rustom N. R. Ranina in the first aid to the sick, and in the practical art of bandaging and carrying the sick and the wounded. The assembly was much pleased with the theoretical and practical teaching imparted at the institution, a large measure of the credit being due to Bai Seeroonbai Byramjee Mehta, Bai Goolbai, Dadabhai Ranina, and Bai Soonabai Wadia, the three head-mistresses of the schools, who were introduced to Lady Sandhurst by the honorary secretary.

Mr. Darasha R. Chichgar then announced to the assembly that Sir Dinshaw Manockjee Petit, Bart., who was present on the occasion, had presented the institution with a handsome donation of Rs. 10,000 in the name of the late lamented Lady Sakarbai Dinshaw Petit, who had expressed her desire during her lifetime that the higher art of cookery should be encouraged and developed among the ladies of the Parsee community, and who intended to endow the institution with a donation for the purpose. The interest of the donation would be applied towards the maintenance of the cookery classes, and any surplus that might be left would be devoted to giving prizes in cookery in the name of Lady Sakarbai. Mr. Chichgar said that the committee felt very grateful to Sir Dinshaw and members of his family for the deep and abiding sympathy they always evinced in the institution, which still deplored the untimely death of its worthy and generous president, the late Mr. Framjee Dinshaw Petit. The assembly would be glad to learn that Sir Dinshaw had promised him another donation of Rs. 1,000, the interest of which would be devoted to awarding prizes in cookery in the name of Lady Sandhurst, who had graced the occasion with her kind presence. (Applause.) Mr. Sorabjee Dadabhoy Dubash had also laid at his disposal a sum of Rs. 500, the interest of which was to be devoted for a similar purpose. (Applause.) At a later stage of the proceedings donations from Mr. Cowasjee Dinshaw Adenwalla, C. I. E., Mr. Cowasjee Dadabhoy Dubash and Mr. Framjee Sorabjee B. Bhownaggree of Rs. 2,000, Rs. 2,000 and Rs 1,200 respectively, were also announced. The singing of the National Anthem in Gujrati terminated the proceedings. Before H. E. Lady Sandhurst left she inspected the several dainties in sweetmeats and European and native dishes prepared by the pupils, and expressed her entire satisfaction at the theoretical and practical education imparted in the schools. When her Ladyship left the Baug she was decorated by a lady of the Petit family with a garland of flowers, the other ladies being presented with bouquets of flowers.

At the termination of the proceedings Sir Dinshaw Petit informally addressed a few encouraging words to the pupils of the institution, remarking that the art of cookery was one which ought to be cultivated by the poor and even middle classes, who might be able to make an honourable living. It was better that the poor should work for themselves rather than they should become a burden on others. He deprecated the idea of creating poverty where there was none, and hoped that those who wished to eke out an honourable living would avail themselves of the opportunities offered by the institution.

The assembly then broke up after inspecting the several good dishes for which no fewer than 66 girls had entered into competition.

INDIAN CROP PROSPECTS.

BURMA RICE-CROP 1897-98.

THE following is a summary of the District Officer's reports on the rice-crop prospects on the 30th November 1897 in the 14 chief rice-producing districts of Lower Burma:—The total area under rice cultivation in the 14 chief rice-producing districts in Lower Burma is now estimated at 5,524,338 acres, or 313,080 acres more than the area actually under cultivation last year and 10,578 acres more than the area reported last month. Crop prospects are very good everywhere. It is estimated that there will be available for export 1,925,000 tons of cargo rice, equivalent to 32,627,100 cwts of cleaned rice.

HERMIT'S Rheumatic and Gout cure is a marvel of the age; BRASSICON fights against All Pains and Aches of the Body, SATARUNA SALVE is a deadly foe to Dhobies' Itch and Ringworm. At MADON, SONS and Co., Bombay.

CHRISTMAS NOTICES.

IV.

MESSRS. D. MACROPOLO AND CO.

MESSRS. D. MACROPOLO, who have established in Bombay since 1863, are known as the Tobacconists of India, their business being strictly confined to cigar, cigarettes, tobacco, and smoking requisites. The visitor to their premises will see a methodically arranged and displayed "recherche" stock of smokers' requisites. Great variety may be obtained in the best brands of superb Havanas and all kinds of cigars, the finest and most fragrant cigarettes and tobaccos, an endless variety of Amber, Meerschaum, Briar, and Cherrywood cigar and cigarette holders and pipes, plain and fancy, mounted in silver and gold, cigar and cigarette cases of sterling silver, crocodile pig, and Morocco leather, etc., etc. The stock suggests the superior character of the trade carried on. For their first class cigarettes, for which they are justly noted, these being manufactured fresh daily at their Bombay factory, where over 60 hands are employed, turning out half-a-lakh of cigarettes daily to meet the requirements of their influential clientele. This year's addition to their well-known brands of cigarettes are the gold-tipped and the Jubilee, both of which for their superiority and finish become the rage of the day. Perhaps no firm has ever enjoyed a larger share of distinguished patronage than Messrs. Macropolo, having the honour to number amongst their patrons H. E. the Viceroy and Governor-General of India. H. E. the Governor of Bombay, H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, H. R. H. Prince of Greece, H. E. Rear-Admiral Kennedy, H. H. the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, etc., etc., etc. The fact that Messrs. Macropolo hold two gold medals and five first class certificates from several exhibitions is a sufficient guarantee of the superiority of the goods manufactured or imported by them.

MESSRS. CHINOY BROTHERS.

The Persian hatters, Messrs. Chinoy Brothers, have in a short space of time established themselves on a firm footing in the line of business they have chosen. They have made a name for head-gears, which are a great improvement upon the shapeless things which the Parsees used to wear. They have great varieties of hats and caps not only for the Parsis, but also for different nationalities, such as for Hindus and Mahomedans. The articles sent out from their shop are appreciated by their constituents, and they do a large business at moderate profit.

THE WEATHER.

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 8 A.M., ON FRIDAY, THE 24TH OF DECEMBER, 1897.

1. The barometric readings are corrected to Calcutta standard, reduced to the same temperature 32° and also to the sea level and corrected to the constant gravity at Lat. 45.

2. The 2nd column under the head 'Wind' gives the average motion of the air in miles per hour during the past 24 hours, and is obtained by dividing the total number of miles of wind registered by an anemometer during the previous 24 hours by 24.

3. The temperatures given in the table are of the air in the shade or in a small shed with open sides and a thatched or straw roof. The maximum (max.) and minimum (min.) temperatures are the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours preceding 8 a. m.

4. The humidity is given as a percentage expressing rates of the actual amount of moisture in the air to the amount required to saturate it.

STATIONS.	Pressure, 8 A.M.	Wind. Direction.	Wind. Rate per hour.	Temperature in shade. Maximum of past 24 hours.	Temperature in shade. Minimum of past 24 hours.	Humidity, 8 A.M.	Rainfall. Past 24 hours.	Rainfall. Since 1st Nov. to date.	Rainfall. Variation, from normal since 1st Nov. to date.
Lahore	30·264	Calm	1	67·1	39·7	90	...	1·23	+0·8
Sirsa	30·232	E	2	75·2	39·7	65	...	0·01	−0·21
Delhi	30·217	Calm	1	72·2	46·6	65	...	...	−0·6
Agra	30·214	NW	1	71·0	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	−0·18
Cawnpore	30·207	Calm	[illegible]	77·2	44·6	[illegible]	...	...	...
Allahabad	30·183	Calm	1	78·7	43·4	[illegible]	...	...	−0·48
Jhansi	30·187	Calm	[illegible]	80·6	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	−0·3
Jacobabad	30·186	Calm	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	...
Karachi	30·124	ENE	5	83·1	55·9	62	...	0·36	+0·11
Jeypore	30·235	NE	4	77·0	50·8	41	...	...	−0·29
Ajmere	30·218	Calm	1	73·9	44·8	46	...	...	−0·62
Deesa	30·105	E	6	82·7	52·6	46	...	...	−0·29
Ahmedabad	30·084	ENE	2	87·7	57·6	46	...	...	−0·16
Bhuj	30·109	NW	3	83·4	56·0	58	...	...	...
Rajkot	30·110	Calm	3	85·1	50·5	46	...	...	−0·09
Ghadechi	30·071	SW	4	85·6	60·7	38	...	...	−0·39
Veraval	30·018	NE	5	83·1	59·2	40	...	...	...
Neemuch	30·193	ESE	6	79·7	55·3	47	...	...	−0·29
Indore	30·169	SW	1	82·3	48·6	61	...	...	−0·39
Saugor	30·170	E	5	78·7	51·6	42	...	...	−1·19
Jubbulpore	30·200	ENE	1	78·6	43·9	72	...	...	−0·31
Hoshangabad	30·161	NE	1	81·2	52·5	55	...	...	−1·16
Khandwa	30·146	E	3	83·7	50·6	58	...	...	−0·25
Raipur	30·179	Calm	3	79·7	48·2	67	...	...	−0·82
Nagpur	30·110	NE	4	82·1	51·7	59	...	...	−1·45
Amraoti	30·132	ENE	4	84·1	54·9	60	...	0·07	−1·67
Akola	30·153	Calm	4	85·0	49·6	51	...	...	−1·51
Surat	30·069	Calm	2	90·1	[illegible]	50	...	...	−0·18
Malegaon	30·154	W	4	85·4	[illegible]	44	...	...	−0·87
Bombay	30·085	E	8	83·4	67·8	74	...	...	−0·73
Poona	30·125	SE	7	83·6	46·5	36	...	...	−1·32
Ahmednagar	30·130	ENE	3	[illegible]	41·9	51	...	...	...
Aurangabad	30·124	NE	4	81·8	51·7	47	...	...	−1·70
Sholapur	30·120	E	1	85·4	54·1	50	...	...	−0·55
Ratnagiri	30·018	Calm	5	91·0	55·9	49	...	...	−2·21
Belgaum	30·07	E	18	[illegible]	54·4	47	...	...	...
Goa	30·003	E	8	83·0	65·3	66	...	...	...
Karwar	[illegible]	E	3	88·7	61·6	72	...	...	−2·70
Mangalore	29·962	ESE	4	88·8	61·4	62	...	...	−3·35
Calicut	29·938	E	7	87·2	67·6	70	...	2·10	−4·09
Cochin	29·909	NNE	1	87·3	69·7	72	...	3·53	−4·91
Bangalore	30·031	ENE	11	77·7	55·5	76	...	0·50	−3·54
Secunderabad	30·121	Calm	4	81·2	53·7	64	...	...	−2·00
Masulipatam	30·002	NNE	9	81·1	66·2	70	...	...	−8·00
Bellary	30·059	Calm	3	81·7	59·1	64	...	0·15	−2·12
Cuddapah	[illegible]	SE	L	86·0	62·4	[illegible]	...	1·95	−3·87
Madras	30·010	N	10	83·0	70·5	[illegible]	...	8·45	−9·43
Coimbatore	29·998	E	2	84·6	63·1	75	...	2·98	−1·74
Trichinopoly	29·979	N	5	87·0	73·9	[illegible]	...	2·42	−5·29
Negapatam	29·941	N	18	80·1	72·9	89	...	9·04	−17·40
Colombo	29·895	NNE	11	82·5	72·3	91	0·01	20·48	+1·61
Aden	30·081	NE	12	83·3	71·9	85	...	0·12	−0·43

In column "Wind, Rate per hour," L=Light, M=Moderate, F=Fresh, S=Strong, H=Heavy.

SUMMARY.

With the exception of a brisk to rapid rise in Sind and the Punjab, the barometer has been steady or has changed only slightly over the whole country. The distribution is unchanged, and the baric gradients are steep to slight. Winds are cyclonic on the Coromandel Coast, while they are north-easterly to south-easterly at most of the other reporting stations. The force has been moderate to strong at Belgaum, Negapatam, Madras and Colombo. This morning the wind velocity was 14 miles an hour at Bombay and 12 at Colombo. The maximum temperature is above the mean of the season in several places, and the minimum 7° in excess at Jeypore and Neemuch. The highest temperature in the shade was 91° at Ratnagiri, and the lowest 40° at Sirsa. Humidity has increased considerably at Negapatam, Madras, Bellary and Delhi, and the skies are cloudy to overcast in Rajputana, and at Agra, Neemuch, Cuddapah, Madras, Trichinopoly, Negapatam and Colombo. A few drops of rain have fallen at Colombo. The isobars indicate that the weather to the south-east or south of Colombo is squally, rainy and slightly unsettled, and a low pressure area appears to be forming there. The sea is rough at Negapatam, and rain is probable in Ceylon and at or about Madras, Trichinopoly and Negapatam. Moderate to strong squally winds with rough sea are likely to prevail at or about Colombo, Negapatam and to the south-east of Negapatam in the Bay.

W. C. NIGEL JONES,
Meteorological Reporter for Western India.

(BY TELEGRAPH.)

SIMLA, DEC. 23.

Friday:—The barometer fallen very slightly over Central Bengal and parts of south and west of the Peninsula and risen elsewhere. The rise has been brisk to rapid over North-West India, but has been generally greater at the level of the plains than at the level of the hill stations. Pressure is highest and largely above normal over North-West India and is lowest and about normal over Ceylon. Calms prevail over Northern India. North-east to north-west winds on coasts of the Bay and easterly winds over the Central Provinces and west of the Peninsula. The force is rising and strong at Diamond Island, but is moderate to light elsewhere. The temperature has risen in Sind, Rajputana and south Madras, and changed irregularly in other places. Mean temperature generally exceeds the normal except west and south-west of Bengal, the Peninsula and south Madras. A little snow has fallen at Minimarg and a little rain at Colombo, but with these exceptions the weather has been rainless.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY, COLABA.

Bombay, 23rd December, 1897.

Means of observations taken at 6 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Barometer corrected to 32 deg. Fah. ...... inches 29·951
Temperature of the Air ...... degrees 73·1
Wet Bulb Thermometer ...... 67·5
Dew Point ...... 61·7
Relative humidity of Air ...... 0·641
Extent of cloudy sky (the whole sky clouded—10) ...... 0·0
Maximum temperature of air (read at 8 a.m.) next day ...... degrees 83·4
Minimum do. do. (read at 8 a.m.) ...... 67·8
General direction of wind ...... E, WNW, NNW, N.
Movement of Wind in 24 hours* ...... miles 194
* From midnight to midnight.

N. A. F. MOOS.
Director, Government Observatory.

THERMOMETER READINGS.

THURSDAY NIGHT.—DEC. 23.

10 p.m. ...... 71·6

FRIDAY.—DEC. 24.

6 a.m. ...... 68·3
10 a.m. ...... 75·4
2 p.m. ...... 80·5
4 p.m. ...... 79·1

THE WORLI FIRE RELIEF FUND.

MR. M. C. MURZBAN begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following further contributions to the Worli Fire Relief Fund:—

	Rs.
H. A. B.	20
D. N. P.	14
Mr. R. J. Tata	10
Miss P. J. Kabraji	30
Total	74
Amount previously acknowledged	989
Grand total	1063

VALUABLE DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—If your hair is turning grey or white or falling off, use "The Mexican Hair Renewer," for it will positively restore in every case, Grey or White hair, to its Original colour without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your Chemist for "The Mexican Hair Renewer," sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere at 3s. 6d. a bottle.—Wholesale Depot: 33, Farringdon Road, London.

THE GHOST OF TURTLE KEY.

ONE evening I was sitting with my friend Dr. F— enjoying a smoke in his snuggery, when, as he saw me eyeing with some curiosity a revolver on the wall, he said, as if I had asked him a question, "Yes, that weapon has a story. It is an American revolver," he continued, taking it down from its perch and handing it to me for examination, "and if you care to know how it came in to my possession, I will tell you." Of course I cared, and told him so. And this was the Doctor's story.

It is just about five years since I found myself at Key West. I had been spending a month or more about the eastern and southern coasts of Florida, attracted thither by the interesting geological formation, by the genial climate, and by the curious subtropical flora and fauna of the country.

I was about to start for Tampa as a centre from which to explore the western coast, and especially to investigate the shell mounds that abound there, with other interesting relics of the early inhabitants, the ancestors probably of the present remnant of the Seminole Indians.

I had taken passage in a small coasting schooner which was to sail the following day. I went out to make some needful purchases, and when I returned to my hotel, the proprietor told me that a countryman of mine had arrived, a seaman who had been shipwrecked a few days before on one of the cayos or keys, as those islands are generally called that fringe the coast of Florida. When I found him, which I soon did, I learned that he had sailed from Glasgow as chief mate in the barque Bellahouston, which had been wrecked some sixty miles from Key West, and that he and two able seamen, who were being looked after by the British Consul, were the only survivors.

Asking him what his plans were, he told me that he wanted to get to New Orleans, or Mobile, or Pensacola, from whence he could probably ship again for home or somewhere else. He was therefore glad to accept the offer I made him that he should accompany me in the schooner to Tampa, from which he could easily obtain a passage to any of the Gulf ports he had mentioned.

I took to him at once. He was a Highlander, and a little over thirty, strong and active, with the honesty and generous instincts and the geniality of the true sailor. His name was Dugald.

He told me he had one relative in the United States, and one only a brother, Hamish, who had been in Maine for two or three years, and had made some money there but he did not know whether he was there still, as he had not heard from him for nearly a year.

We had a capital run northwards with a spanking breeze until were approaching the entrance to Tampa Bay when a thunderstorm came on. The lurid clouds had been gathering for some time, and as the sun was getting low, it was rapidly becoming dark, a circumstance that increased the brightness of the lightning bolts we could see ahead of us and all around descending from the clouds right into the sea, not a flash merely, but each one a long and somewhat wavy line resembling more than anything a river as it appears upon a map, the source in the cloud and the mouth in the sea. So precipitately did these bolts fall that I was conscious of a feeling of wonder that they did not cause a splash as they severally entered the water. The breeze which had fallen off a good deal had also become fitful, and now there was little more than enough to keep steerage way upon the schooner.

We were slowly nearing the south end of one of the many low islands that are scattered up and down that coast. Dugald and I were lying on the fore deck recalling and comparing our reminiscences of pleasant days and nights on the far-away Scottish lochs, when Dugald suddenly sprang to his feet and gazed intently at the shore, now scarce a hundred yards away. His attitude rigid, his eyes dilated and his breast heaving, he was an awe-inspiring figure in that dim and lurid light.

For a few seconds, wrapped in amazement, I watched, and then I heard him mutter in a voice which, perhaps purposely, was too low for any one else to hear, "Hamish! Hamish! it is my brother Hamish!"

Starting to my feet, I also gazed in the direction in which my companion was looking, but could see nothing. Of course, it occurred to me in a moment that it was his brother's wraith or ghost that he saw or thought he saw.

"Where?" I asked.

"On the shore. There! He is beckoning! He waves his hand, and walks away, looking at me as he goes. Now he is passing round some bushes. Now," continued Dugald, still in a hoarse whisper, "he is away from the shore and standing beside a low tree. See! he is pointing down to the ground."

"Where?" I said again.

"There," he replied, now pointing with his finger at what I could plainly see was a palmetto tree, but nothing else was visible to me.

Was this the second sight of which I had heard and read so much in Scotland, but of which I had never yet personally witnessed a case?

Soon I heard him say, "I cannot see him now." Then suddenly he turned to me, his face white and his lips set, and laid his hand upon my shoulder.

"Doctor, I am going ashore."

"Going ashore?" I said mechanically.

"See anything on the key, gen'lmen?" called out 'gator Bill at the same moment from the stern, where he was calmly smoking. "That's Turtle Keay, as I call it. There may be an Injun name or a Spanish name, but I never heerd of sich. You can catch turtles there if you're fortnit enough and strong enough, which you must be, I tell you, if you want to turn a six-footer of 219 pounds weight, as I did wunst on that ther key."

"Yes," said Dugald to me in a whisper, "and I must get one of these boats."

We were towing two boats, one the dinghy of the schooner, the other belonging to 'gator Bill.

"I will not be ready to leave the island before to-morrow, and so I must find a reason to give these men. You understand?"

"I understand," I replied, "and I think I can manage it."

Going aft to 'gator Bill, I told him that we wanted the loan of his boat for twenty-four hours, that I was searching for plants, which I was told were to be found on some of these keys, and that we would follow the schooner to Tampa on the morrow, catching the steamer on her return from the Manatee. I found no difficulty in borrowing Bill's sharpie—for a consideration; and putting a dozen bananas, a piece of bread and cheese, and a bottle of water into the boat, we pushed off for land, Dugald being evidently pleased that I wanted to accompany him.

"If you can pick any palmetto berries on that key, they'll give you twelve cents a pound for them in Tampa. And if your provisions run short, and you can't git away, you'll find them berries and the fiddler crabs not bad to eat—with hunger sauce." These were Bill's parting shots as we pulled away for the shore.

As soon as we had hauled up the boat on the beach, Dugald, without a word, made straight for the palmetto tree that he had pointed out from the schooner, and I followed. But what ever his motive was—and I now began to have a suspicion—it was too dark to see anything; and when I proposed that we should make ourselves a bed of some kind, he readily assented. Gathering some dried palmetto leaves and other plants which we plucked in handfuls, we soon had a couch prepared, on which we lay and tried—at least I did—to compose ourselves to sleep. For more than two hours, however, sleep refused to come to me and to my companion also. The novelty of the situation, no doubt, helped to keep me wakeful, and I could not refrain from speculating on Dugald's intentions for the coming day, for that he had a definite intention was quite apparent from his quiet and resolute manner. He, too, was restless, and frequently changed his attitude, but when we spoke, which was seldom, nothing more than commonplace remarks were made by either of us.

At last I fell asleep, and when I awoke it was to find the rising sun shining in my face. Getting on my feet, I turned to look for Dugald, and I saw him leaning against the tree with his eyes bent on the ground.

He looked up, however, as I approached, and said with suppressed excitement in his voice and look, "It was his spirit that I saw yesterday, and here is his body. Yes, the body of Hamish, and he has been murdered!"

When I heard his words, and look where he was now looking, my heart seemed to stand still with horror. There, at the bottom of a shallow grave, which Dugald had evidently cleared out before I was awake, lay the body of a man apparently but recently dead, with stains of blood on his face and hair, which was matted and partly covered with adherent sand.

"I want you, Doctor, to examine the body and see how it was done. Will you do it?"

At once I began my gruesome task. I soon found that he had been shot in the head, also in the back near the lower angle of the right shoulder blade, and also in the arm, the bone of which had plainly been fractured by the bullet. The shot in the back and that in the head evidently been fired from behind probably that in the arm also—and the deed had not been done more than forty-eight hours before. My reasons for these conclusions I explained to Dugald, who listened and looked with the most absorbing interest. Then we covered up the body again, heaping the sand into a mound, and placing at the head of the corpse a board on which I wrote with a nail a brief inscription, so that the spot could easily be identified afterwards.

"Now, Doctor," said Dugald, as he turned and faced me, "you know what it is that I am going to do."

If I had any doubt, a glance at his contracted brows and firm set lips made it impossible to mistake his meaning. He saw that I understood him, and he added—"Will you help me?"

I gave him my hand, only saying, "As long as I have life and strength." His answering grasp was token of his gratitude.

We caught the steamer for Tampa at the mouth of the Manatee river after an exhausting row, and reached our destination in the evening about dusk. Hungry and fatigued as we were we went by common consent straight to the police and laid the facts before them. They listened attentively, took notes, and promised to start inquiries at once.

By the afternoon of the following day they had learned this much:—That Hamish had spent a week at a particular hotel in Tampa with a man who had come with him from the north; that this man's name was O'Grady—evidently an Irish Yankee; that they had come south with the intention of prospecting for land; that Hamish had deposited 3000 dollars in one of the banks of which some 2580 dollars had been paid to O'Grady on the day we arrived on his presenting a cheque for that amount apparently signed by Hamish. The police had not succeeded in tracing O'Grady, but in the evening we discovered that he had the previous evening taken the train for Jacksonville, and within an hour we were following on the mail train, which was due to arrive next morning.

As soon as we had secured lodgings in Jacksonville, and had snatched a hasty breakfast, Dugald said, "I am told that a murderer in these parts is not always convicted and when he is convicted he often escapes the penalty."

"I am afraid," I replied, "that that is so."

For reasons best known to the authorities, a miscarriage of justice is almost too familiar to excite remark.

"In this case," said Dugald, rising, "there will be no miscarriage of justice, Doctor," he continued, "you have helped me already in this business. Will you help me once again?"

"If I can, I will."

"If you can, then, will you lend me twenty dollars?"

I said I would most willingly, and I handed him the money. He made for the door immediately saying only as he went, "I am going, but I think I will not be long."

After looking at the newspapers for half an hour and finding he had not returned, I decided to go out also with the hope of finding him, and with the intention of prosecuting inquiries at the hotels and boarding-houses. Several hours I passed in this way without result, and then returned to the hotel. As Dugald had not come back, I ordered dinner, and was just about to begin, when he entered the dining room, his dress somewhat disordered.

Saying in a low voice, "Come with me," he led the way to his bed-room, and when I had entered, shut the door. His first words were, "My brother now may yest in peace. Yes," with a gleam in his eye, "there has been no miscarriage of justice this time."

"What!" I exclaimed. "Have you—"

"Yes, I have done it. I saw him in the street. I knew him from his description, and I followed him to a boarding-house which I saw him enter. I entered too, engaged a room, and sat down to dinner with him. But it was useless; I could get no information; he was too much on his guard. The name he had given was James P. Kelly. He went out again directly after dinner, and I took occasion, having ascertained which room was his, to enter it at the first opportunity. I saw his valise and opened it, for he had left the key on the table, and there I found a letter addressed to Dennis O'Grady at Tampa, his hotel bill for the night he spent there alone, and the cheque book of Hamish. I went out again and bought a revolver, came back, loaded it, and waited. I did not wait long. I told him I was an estate agent, and had a house and a bit of land for sale cheap. Would he look at them? He consented, and we went together into the shrubbery of a house which I had noticed before as one that had been vacant for some time. There I faced him, and pointing my revolver, made him throw up his hands. In a moment I took his shooter from his pocket, and seeing that it was loaded, threw my own away. I said, 'I am the brother of the man you murdered on Turtle Key. It was three shots you gave him, and it is three shots that I will give you.'

"Then before he could recover from his surprise, I had him—quicker than I can tell you—by the back of his collar, and twisting him round while he began to struggle and clutch at my clothes, I held him at arm's length just long enough to put one shot in the back of his head, one in the back below the right shoulder blade, and one in the arm, and then I flung him from me"—Dugald's eyes flashing as he suited the action to the word—"and there, for aught I know his cursed carcase is lying now."

Overcome by the strain of his actions and emotions, he sank into a chair, and for a few minutes there was silence. He soon recovered, and was the first to speak. "This," he said quietly, "is his revolver. Will you accept it as a token of my gratitude for your kindness, and as a memento of me and my brother? Now I am going to give myself to the police."

"That is the story," said the Doctor.

I had listened to the narrative spell-bound, and now I wanted to know more.

"What became of Dugald and his money?" I inquired.

"He was detained for three weeks or so while investigations were made, and then liberated without more ado. I have never seen him since. Of the money stolen I recovered and had the pleasure of sending to him, all but some seventy dollars. And if you should ever visit Turtle Key, you will find the grave of Hamish surmounted by a small plain headstone with a fitting inscription to his memory."

THE KLONDYKE "LYRE."

A CORRESPONDENT has just received from the Pacific Coast the first number of the *Daily Klondyke Lyre*, a small sheet published monthly, the price of a number being 5dols. (one guinea). It is called a daily because it is printed in the day-time. It has a further peculiarity in the way of advertisements, inasmuch as, its size being limited, it only takes the advertisements of one firm in each particular line of business.

The stories of horror and starvation at the goldfields are stated to be set afoot by people who have their own ends to serve, as, for instance, by Yankees who wish to boom mines in their own country, or by men who have returned after failing to get through, and who either intend going back in the spring and therefore wish to prevent others getting ahead of them, or who present that as an excuse for their return after starting without sufficient means to continue their journey.

For economical reasons the paper is printed with gold type, but if the business justifies the expense, the proprietors hope to be able to invest in lead.

A story is told of a miner named "Lucky Sam," who had started to use one of the folding stoves which are taken to the Klondyke for convenience of carriage. One morning when he proceeded to clear out the ashes for the first time he was surprised to find it half full of pure gold. He did not know that the trees at the gold fields become impregnated with the precious metal, which takes the place of potash, and is left in the stove instead of ashes.

Being less expensive than gravel, the Dawson City Council has decided to pave the streets with gold. It will be done by day labour at 5dols. per day. A miner named Rank has abandoned his pile of gold on account of the exorbitant freight rates charged by the transportation companies. He intends to grow hot-house potatoes next spring. There is stated to be no trouble in Dawson City about bad washing. The few women who have gone into the laundry business are making fortunes washing gold-dust out of the miners' shirts.

At the police-court a store-keeper named Fletcher was brought before the magistrate on a charge of non-fulfilment of contract. The prosecutor, an Irishman called Doolan, had ordered a sack of potatoes, and Fletcher gave him what appeared to be the order. On opening the sack next morning to get his breakfast, Doolan found that he only had some gold nuggets. Hence the suit. Fletcher was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, and to pay the costs.

An extraordinary incident is reported from Ice Gulch, which occurred owing to the operation of the Aurora Borealis heating apparatus. The machine employed is a huge inverted hollow iron cone, 1½ miles long, 4 miles diameter at the mouth, and narrowing down to 1-16 miles diameter at its apex. The tube is lined with highly electrified plates, with 100 magnets placed immediately behind the orifice. The whole rests on pillars 4½ miles from the ground. It was brought into use at Ice Gulch, a valley where the ice never before melted. Under the heat created, however, the ... it began to disappear. As it thawed some peculiar ridges were observed which dotted the whole bed of the valley. Upon the disappearance of 25ft. more of the ice, these were seen to be droves of mastodons. For some unknown reason the reporter of the *Lyre* got on the back of one of these animals, which had been lying down when the cold came, but the sudden warmth revived circulation, and it leaped to its feet and rushed up the valley at a tremendous speed. Fortunately it halted at a narrow gorge, and the reporter was able to slide down by its tail, though twice he narrowly escaped being dashed to pieces when the brute lashed its tail to free itself of the encumbrance.

Some interesting notes are taken from the diary of a Klondyker. He arrived at the gold-fields on September 1, and staked a claim the same evening. On the 5th he was engaged in building a house of gold bricks, and amusing himself in odd moments by throwing stones at the birds. On the 7th there was a fight in his back-yard between a moose and a polar bear. His neighbour, Deadly Bill, formerly a Vancouver preacher, offered to bet him 92,500dols. in dust on the bear. As the fight progressed, a crowd gathered, and he made a book at even money. The fight ended in a draw, and finally he had 437,000dols. in nuggets and dust staked up in the back-yard. On the 8th he paid the whole amount for a bag of flour, and traded the entire claim for two dozen coffee beans. On the 9th he started for the coast.

THE *Standard's* Berlin correspondent reproduces the following stories of Prince Bismarck from a lecture by District Governor von Tiedemann:—The quickness of Bismarck's mind is shown by the following instances. Minister Friedberg was at Varzin one day, and was present at lunch while Tiedemann reported on negotiations for the renewal of the Austro-German Commercial treaty. Seven or eight points were in question. Bismarck did not allow his business to interfere with his lunch, and then went on dictating without further delay. "As regards No. 1 I am willing; No. 2, I won't hear of it—the Hungarians must yield; No. 3 must be left for subsequent settlement," &c. It all came out like a bullet from a pistol. Friedberg afterwards said, "What a man that is! We Ministers sat six hours in Berlin debating on these points, and here all is settled in six minutes." When, after the conclusion of the Treaty of San Stefano, an Anglo-Russian war threatened to break out, Count Peter Schouvaloff, then Russian Ambassador in London, resolved to go to St. Petersburg, and adjured the Tsar to prevent it by a Congress in Berlin to be summoned by Bismarck. The Tsar consented. The Count went to Friedrichsruh, and had a short talk with the Prince. The latter then went into the antechamber, where Count Herbert Bismarck and Tiedemann were waiting, and dictated to them, without a moment's hesitation, not only the invitation to the Powers to the Congress, but also with clear precision the points to be discussed. All the Great Powers accepted the programme—except England, which wanted only one word changed. The Prince consented. Bismarck's vast intellectual power is coupled with enormous self-reliance. He thought he could do everything. For this reason he often underrated both friends and foes, and occasionally sacrificed the former. The passion of his nature, however, was mitigated by deep feeling. He is an enthusiastic lover of nature, and knows every tree in his forests. When the first "dog of the Empire," Sultan, died, the Prince sat on the carpet and held him in his lap.

IN the memoir of Barney Barnato by Mr. H. Raymond (Isbister and Co.,) just published, many instances are given of the marvellous 'cuteness Barney brought to bear on business. In the early days at the Diamond Fields, Barney and a partner, named Louis Cohen, were in low water. Mr. Cohen says:—There was one man then, a diamond buyer in a comparatively large way, whose business we both envied. He seemed to have a regular and large connection, and made constant rounds, riding an old yellow, rather lame, pony. We tried to follow him several times, to see which way he went, and who, among the wilderness of tents, huts, and debris heaps, he called on, but without avail. A few days later Barnato came to me in great glee. "I know what we have to do to get ——'s customers. I've seen him come back from his rounds three days running, and he always stops first at Hall's canteen. Mind this, however. He does not guide the pony to that place, but just sits still all the while with loose rein, and the pony stops of his own accord. Now, it is my firm conviction that all day long he rides just the same way, and that the pony knows all the stopping places. I've known this for some days, but it didn't help so long as he had the pony; to-day he has seen some other beast he likes, better, and wants to sell his whole present outfit." I agreed. We bought that old worn-out yellow pony and its bridle for £27 10s., and with it the man's whole connection; for the morning after the purchase Barnato started out early, and the pony, without trouble, took him in and out among the debris heaps to every one that chap had been in the habit of calling on. The man little thought that with the pony he really sold the list of his customers.

ROWLANDS' MACASSAR OIL prevents hair falling off or turning grey, cleanses it from scurf and dandruff, and makes it beautifully soft, pliable, and glossy. It is the best Brillantine, and has no mineral ingredients, can be had in a golden colour for fair hair, and is most exquisitely perfumed. Sold by Chemists and Drug Stores. Avoid spurious imitations, and buy none but ROWLANDS'.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

THE s s Janeta, 2,179 tons, Captain John Simond cleared yesterday for Calcutta in ballast.

THE B I S N Co's s s Vadala, 2,104 tons, Captain J S Hatchison, cleared yesterday for Rangoon in ballast.

THE B I S N Co's s s Oolabaria 3,4?0 tons, Captain A E Stebbing, will sail to-day for Calcutta in ballast.

THE Austrian Lloyd's S N Co's s s Maria Teresa, 1,922 tons, Captain G Marovich, arrived in harbour yesterday from Trieste (30th November) via Karachi, with a general cargo and 8 deck passengers.

THE B I S N Co's s s Goa, 1,217 tons, Captain H Plummer, arrived in harbour yesterday from Zanzibar (4th December) with a general cargo and the following passengers:—Mr Gracias, Sub-Lieut J W Hope and 76 deck.

THE B I S N Co's s s Dumra, 762 tons, Captain E C Russell, will sail to-morrow for Karachi, with a general cargo and the following passengers:—Hon'ble Mr Justice Fulton, Mr Jehangir Dossabhoy Framjee, Mr Manekshaw Dunjeeshaw, and 12 deck.

THE Austrian Lloyd's S N Co's s s Amphitrite, 2,341 tons, Captain G Costanzo, cleared yesterday for Kobe, &c, with a general cargo and the following passengers:—Revd Webringer and eight Sisters, Miss R Webringer, Sister Julians, Mr Nossevethen, Mr A Gritle, Mr Wahyram and 14 deck.

THE German East Africa Line s s Safari, 891 tons, Captain F Kleene, arrived in harbour yesterday from Zanzibar (10th December) with a general cargo and the following passengers, Mr O Bord, Mr Hudson, Mr T Silva, Mr J A Chowdrey, Mr A G Gheson, Mr Balla Ram, and 172 deck.

THE B I S N Co's s s Kapurthala, 720 tons, Captain W H Rothwell, which arrived in harbour on the 23rd December from the Persian Gulf via Karachi brought a general cargo 52 cases of opium, 7 horses, and the following passengers:—Mrs Fowler, Mr Southey, Mrs Price, Mrs Critchell, Mr Batcholor, Mr Speechly 13 natives and 107 deck.

THE following is the list of passengers proceeded yesterday evening per Austrian Lloyd's s s Vindobona, Captain C Androvich from Victoria Dock No. 10:—From Bombay to Trieste Venice—Mrs M Brains and child, Messrs. Barnowetz, S Cattaruich, J Seddon, H Marquardt, and G Loach.—From Bombay to Suez—Mr Steimez—From Bombay to Port-Said—Mr S G Marcbowsky—From Karachi to Trieste Venice, Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs L I Bishop, Captain C Archer, Mr S J Cartland and 14 deck passengers for different ports.

MARINE DEPARTMENT NOTIFICATIONS.

INDIA—BAY OF BENGAL.

GULF OF MARTABAN.

Intended temporary relieving of the Baragua Flats Light Vessel.—Telegraphic information has been received from the Port Officer, Rangoon, dated 8th instant, that the Baragua Flats light vessel will be temporarily relieved about the 15th January 1898. There will be no change in the character of the light, but the relieving vessel will have three masts.

INDIA—WEST COAST.

Floating wreck off Malvan.—Information has been received from the Port Office, Bombay, that the Master of s. s. 'Onipente' reports having passed on the 25th November 1897, at 7-30 a.m., in lat. 16° 0' 0" N. and Long 73° 18' 0" E., a capsized bugalow laying on her side with the mast showing slightly above water in the way of steamers passing up and down the coast.

VESSELS IN DOCKS.—DECEMBER 24.

PRINCE'S DOCK.

Shd.	Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.*	Agents.
A	Imperialist	2177	Gladstone	...	...	F Muir & Co
G	Bq Parvady	[illegible]	Jungvaen	...	...	V Ry & Co
H&J	Khrenf.	[illegible]	Wacmora	Hamburg	23-12	G & Co
M	Murex	2289	Halliday	Genoa	[illegible]	W & A G & Co
M	Golavari	57	...	...	...	...
Q	Hiroshima Maru	2131	Schimadzu	Japan	5-12	N Y K & Co
P	Claverly	1338	Livingstone	Beypore	27-12	K N & Co

20 tons Crane.

Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agents.
Pekin	2334	Shumacker	...	...	H C Jonah

HARBOUR WALL.

Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agents.
Satrunji	547	Bedroo	Karachi	25-12	S & Co
Mahanadi	547	Facer	G Port	22-12	S & Co
Sabarmati	54?	Patro	Mangalore	26-12	S & Co
Brahmani	524	Cassum	Bhownagar	25-12	S & Co

VICTORIA DOCK.

Shd.	Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agents.
1	Gaekwar	2742	Harrison	Liverpool	1-1	K N & Co
2	Ganges	2110	Geary	China	...	P & O S N Co
3	Singapore	2432	Pizzarello	Genoa	7-1	N G Italiana
4	Bormida	1499	Noem	Hongkong	9-1	N G Italiana
6	Oriental	3035	Moula	London	...	P & O
7	Imperator	3329	Nicolich	Trieste	1-1	A L S N Co
8	Amphitrite	2342	Costanzo	China	26-12	A L S N Co
9	Vadala	2104	Hutchison	...	...	M M & Co
12	M Bacquehem	2742	Wallsching	Gal	21-12	A L S N Co
15	Kaiser-i-Hind	...	Barcham	...	...	P & O S N Co
16	Charterhouse	1998	Field	...	...	Bombay Co

HARBOUR WALL.

Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agents.
Dumra	762	Russell	Karachi	25-12	M M & Co

MEREWETHER DRY DOCK.

Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agents.
Simla	5589 tons gross	...	...	...	Transport

* Probable date of departure.

Time Ball drops at Prince's Dock at Noon, or Greenwich meantime, 7h. 8m. 44·2s.
The Time Ball over the Clock Tower at the Bombay Castle continues to be dropped regularly at 1 p.m. of Colaba mean time, or 8h. 8m. 44·2s of Greenwich meantime.

ARRIVALS.

Dec.	Vessel.	Commander.	From
24	Goa s	Plummer	[illegible]
	Safari s	Kle[illegible]	[illegible]
	Maria Teresa s	Ma[illegible]	[illegible]

DEPARTURES.

Dec.	Vessel.	Commander.	For
24	Vindobona s	Androvich	Trieste, &c.
	Dean s	Hamilton	Singapore, &c.
	Mozaffari s	McAllister	Marseilles.
	Melbourne s	Dachateau	Marseilles, &c.
	Mikado s	Pickering	Hull, &c.
	Arabia s	Read	Liverpool, &c.
	M. Bacquehem s	Wallsching	Calcutta.
	Rudeshiemer s	Saeds...	Hamburg.
	Vadala s	Hutchison	Rangoon.
25	Oolabaria s	Stebbing	Calcutta.
	Calcdonia s	Andrews	Marseilles.
	Janeta s	Simond	Calcutta.

The following vessels obtained their port clearances yesterday:—
Steamer Dumra, Russell, for Karachi.
" Amphitrite, Costanzo, for China, &c.

The following vessels entered for loading yesterday:—
Steamer Bormida, for China, &c.
" Dwarka, for Karachi, &c.
" Safari, for Zanzibar, &c.
" Maria Teresa, for Trieste, &c.
" Courtfield, for Antwerp and Dunkirk.

ADEN SHIPPING REPORT.

Arrivals. Date.	Arrivals. Vessel.	Arrivals. Commander.	Arrivals. From	Departures. Date.	Departures. To
December					
3	Amber C S	Gifford	Bombay	5	Cable repairs
4	S Berkhud	Roberts	Somali coast	6	Somali coast
	Arabistan	Pattoo	Busreh	4	London
5	Trevas	Morris	Batoum	5	Madras
	Mohamedi	Erikson	Jeddah	6	Calcutta
	Himalaya	Broun	London		Sydney
	M Bacquehem	Wallsching	Trieste		Bombay
6	Malta	Langborne	Calcutta		London
	Brisk	Rich	Somali coast		
	C Macrae	Elliot	Madras		London
	Imperatrix	Rassovich	Bombay	7	Trieste
	Gisela	Brelich	Bombay		Trieste
	Prinz R Luitpold	Walter	Sydney	8	Bremen
	A Provans, M of War	Gerra	[illegible]	11	Zaila, &c
7	Pola	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Aden, December 13.

DAILY EXPORTS.—DECEMBER 24.

[illegible]

PLEASE SIR! ... [illegible]

YOUR OLD FRIEND.— ... CLEAVER'S ... [illegible]

SPECIAL SHORT ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Scale for these Advertisements is as follows:—Not exceeding 3 lines, Re. 1, each succeeding line, As. 8. No Trade Advertisements are admitted under this Scale.

JEWELLERY MANUFACTURERS.—MARCKS AND CO., LTD., are prepared to manufacture Gold or Silver ware of any description or design. Bridesmaid's Brooches or Bangle's Birthday Gifts, Rings, Pins, Links, Prize Cups, Medals, Walking Stick Mounts, &c., &c. All manufactured under European supervision. Engraving inscriptions, monograms, &c., at reasonable rates.—MARCKS and Co., Ld., Bombay and Poona.

BACHELORS' CHAMBERS, FURNITURE specially designed for this purpose. Estimates supplied on application to JOHN ROBERTS and Co., Ld., Bombay.

"TARAXACUM JUICE WITH PODOPHYLLIN," a combination of the two medicines, in a most agreeable form. A certain remedy for sluggish Liver. Per Bottle Re. 1 and Rs. 1-12. THOMSON and TAYLOR, 35, Esplanade Road, Bombay.

XMAS and NEW YEAR PRESENTS.—A Choice Collection of INDIAN JEWELLERY, Silverware, Sandalwood and Ivory Boxes for Presentation, Moderate prices. INDIAN ART GALLERY, 10, Hummum Street, Fort.

FOR SALE.—One Brand-New LADY'S CYCLE "LADY HOBART," with Dunlop Tyres, Gear, case and all accessories complete. Rs. 300.—R. NUSSERWANJI and Co., Jewellers, 125, Hornby Row, Fort, Bombay.

GENUINE AMERICAN KEROSINE OIL.—150° "SNOWFLAKE" at Rs. 5-8 and 124° "ELEPHANT" at one anna above Mazagon wholesale price, SOLD by CURRIMBHOY HIRJI at Crawford Market, Walkeshwar Road (Malabar Hill), Chuckla, Null Bazar, and Fort.

OUR FISH POND and Wheel of Fortune is giving great satisfaction and will be kept going til New Year. Try your Luck at SHROFF BROTHERS, FORT.

ON VIEW.—Mr. P. M. Narielwalla's Furniture, etc., at Sandford Hill, to be SOLD ON SUNDAY, the 26th instant.

DANTRA'S Pure Ground MOCCA COFFEE, per lb. Re. 14. This Coffee is Daily roasted and ground from Genuine Mocca Berries in the latest pattern Closed Cylinders by experienced hands under our Own Supervision and immediately packed in Air-tight tins, the fine Aroma is preserved. Its unrivalled purity, freedom from any adulteration, richness in flavour, full strength, and uniform quality distinguish it from other Coffees sold in the market. The rapid and increasing demand it has obtained since its introduction is a sufficient proof of its superior quality and moderate price.—N. B. DANTRA and Co., Tea and Coffee Merchants, 33, Church Gate Street, Fort, Bombay.

SNOWFLAKE OIL, imported by STANDARD OIL Co., of New York, sold by Messrs. KEMP & Co., Ld., and by Messrs. PHILLIPS and Co., Ld., and at the Kerosine Oil Godowns, Mazagon, at Rs. 5-1 per case.

WANTED, an experienced HINDU NURSE for the Bhatia Plague Hospital; good salary; with Testimonials. Apply to the MANAGER, Bhatia Plague Hospital, Fort, Mint Road.

WANTED, Two Copying and Engrossing CLERKS, who can write very neat and fast hand. Apply by letter to Messrs. THAKURDAS, DHARAMSI, CAMA and HORMASJEE, Solicitors.

WANTED, a competent ENGINEER, with Second-Class Certificate, for the Twin Screw Hopper Barge, "Industry" Triple Expansion Engines. Salary Rs. 200 per month.—Apply, RESIDENT ENGINEER, Colombo Harbour Works.

MESSRS. OLIVER & CO.—The original and only firm that SUPPLIES thoroughly efficient and reliable High Class DOMESTIC SERVANTS, patronized by the Officers of the service as well as the Leading Clubs and Hotels, care of STEFFENAUER and Co., No. 5, Church Gate Street, Fort, Bombay. Fee, Rs. 2, each servant.

PRIMUS STOVES.—Wonderfully inexpensive, Burns Kerosine Oil without Wick, 1-8 pint an hour, Emits no Smoke, Smell, nor Soot. Travellers will find it a perfect boon. Price list on application to D. D. POSTWALLA & Co., 57, Cowasjee Patel Street, Fort, Bombay, Sole Agents for India.

NEWLY TO HAND.—For Xmas Season, Neckties of every description, Silk Cummerband Belts from the best house in Paris. Presentation Boxes in Velvet and Skin containing Perfumery and Soap. First Class Scents, Toilet Waters, Soaps, Tooth Powders, Hair Washes and every Toilet Requisites from the best French and American Houses. Specially in requisites for complexion at F. FINKELSTEIN'S Pall Mall Hair Cutting Saloon, 73B, Esplanade Road, Fort.

SINGING LESSONS.—The perfect Art of Vocalisation can be taught by Mrs. A. SCHULTZ, who has studied under eminent Artists in Germany. Apply 5, Colaba Causeway.

TO LET ON LEASE.—Spacious UPSTAIR HALL Measuring 75×30 feet, suitable for Merchants, also suite of rooms consisting of Sitting, Bed and Bath rooms. Best business site in Madras on the Mount Road. Apply G. D'ANGELIS, 177, Mount Road, Madras.

FIRE and BURGLAR PROOF SAFES.—American, Austrian, Milners, Chubb's, Lords, Nagur's &c., Detector Locks, Cash Box, Despatch Box, &c.—NAGUR and Co., 28, Apollo Street.

THE POONA HOTEL.—QUIET, COMFORTABLE, ROOMY. This First class well-established Hotel stands in the best position in Poona. Close to Gymkhana, Post, Telegraph Offices, Council Hall, five minutes walk from Railway Station. Each family has a separate sitting Room. Rooms are bright, airy and commodious. It is superiorly furnished, with convenient drawing-room and large cool, pleasant verandah.

MATHERAN GRANVILLE HOTEL is a First Class European HOTEL, occupying the highest position, Commanding extensive views. Nearest to Neral Station, Gymkhana, and fashionable resorts.

RIPON HOTEL.—MAHABLESHWAR. Most Centrally situated and on the Healthiest locality of the Hill. Away from Public Latrines and Native huts. Rooms bright and clean. Cuisine Excellent. Tariff moderate. Visitors will do well to apply to the RIPON before making final arrangements elsewhere.

TOMSON'S BRONCHIAL or COUGH SYRUP. Excellent preparation for Bronchitis, Hoarseness, Cough and Cold in the head, per Bottle As. 14. Apply to TOMSON and Co., Kalbadevie Road, Bombay.

OLD ESTABLISHED PARIS FIRM, wishes to enter into communication with Firms in India with a view to the IMPORTATION of CORAHS. Address, H. G. M. A. Poste Restante, Place Bourse, PARIS (France).

SECOND HAND Bijou Orchestran Organs, or the P. P. Organs with 4 Music Rolls and case complete, in good order, very little used, Rs. 90.—STEFFENAUER and Co., Fort, Bombay.

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£1,834,450 New Assurances were issued by the STANDARD in 1896, one of the Largest Records yet made by the Company. Apply Secretary, Standard Life Office, Bombay and Calcutta.

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BOMBAY GAZETTE Bi-Weekly Edition.—Issued on Thursday and Saturday, giving all the News and Telegrams up to date. Subscription per Annum, Rs. 12; Half-yearly, Rs. 6; Quarterly, Rs. 3 to Subscribers in Bombay or the Mofussil, postage extra.

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ABEGGSTRASSE, 2.

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Though LOW PRICED, these HIGHCLASS instruments stand HIGHEST in the estimation on Western Civilisation. The Factory is the largest in Europe, manufacturing no less than 3,000 Pianos every year, or one Piano in every working hour of the day.

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JULIUS BLUTHNER is the "Holder of 15 Patents" and "Distinctions." Their Aliquot Pianoforte has been patented throughout Europe and America.

Pianos by the above maker are received monthly by the SOLE AGENTS and they are offered at Manufacturer's Prices "plus" freight.

The Sole Agents invite Inspection of these superbly Grand, Rich and Brilliant-toned Pianofortes.

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IN

GLASGOW FIRE.

51, St. Enoch Square,
Glasgow, 2nd Nov., 1896.

MESSRS. CHUBB & SON, Ltd.,
LONDON.

DEAR SIRS,—We regret to inform you that our Offices were TOTALLY DESTROYED in the GREAT FIRE, which entirely demolished the property at the corner of Clyde Place and Commerce Street, on the morning of the 13th ult.

We are pleased, however, to say that the SAFE which you supplied us with a few month ago PRESERVED its CONTENTS, consistisng of a considerable amount of Cash and Valuable Securities, though from the exterior appearance of the Safe it had evidently been exposed to intense heat and fallen from a height of about 20 feet.

Yours truly,
(Signed) JOHN PATERSON, Ltd.

CHUBB'S BOMBAY AGENT:
37, PARSEE BAZAR, FORT.

WM. HUTCHINSON & Co.,

BANKERS, MERCHANTS, AND EAST INDIA AGENTS.

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Crushed Horse food, best in the market, per cwt.	5	8

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

BOMBAY MARKET REPORT.

FRIDAY EVENING, Dec. 24.

THE Banks and Markets generally closed last evening for the Christmas Holidays, not to re-open until next Tuesday morning; and we have not much to report in the way of business this evening. Another demand for Cotton from local spinners sprang up yesterday leading to a considerable business in ready and arrival stuff; but during the earlier part of the week transactions by the Mills were upon a small scale, while Exporters have been small buyers throughout; and in other Produce we have no change to report. Exchange has been generally firm; and the course of the market, with some slight fluctuations, has been upward, strengthening influence having been felt from Calcutta and rates closed last evening 5-16d. higher for Bank Demand Bills and 11-32d. for Credits than they ruled a week ago. Money has been increasing by other demand, and the Bank of Bombay has raised its rates by one per cent. twice since last mail. Government Paper has been week and declining and our quotation for 3½ per Cents is 1 1-8 per cent. lower than it ruled on last Friday. Freights have been firm; and business has been reported at somewhat higher rates.

MONEY.—The advance in the rate of discount to 6 per cent. at the Presidency Bank in the middle of last week checked the outflow of Money from the coffers of the Bank, and the last Balance in the Statement of Affairs issued on Monday showed a diminution of some 7¼ lakhs, compared with a reduction of 41¼ lakhs at the close of the week preceding. The monetary current, however, was still running in the same direction, and the Return disclosed an increase of over 24 lakhs in trade requirements, against an addition of 44 3-4 lakhs in the previous one, considerable withdrawals having again taken place from Private Deposits, while in Loans there was a material, and in Bills Discounted a visible, increase. On the other side, however, there was an addition of some 15 lakhs in Government Deposits at the Bank's head office, which partly counterbalanced the increase in the trade demand.

The demand for accommodation having continued to increase, the Bank of Bombay further put up its rates on Tuesday by one per cent., making the minimum stand at 7 per cent.

For the second time during the week under review the Bank's Directors advanced their rate yesterday by another one per cent., bringing it up to 8 per cent. The rate in the open market is 7 per cent.

EXCHANGE opened quiet but steady in tone last mail-day at 1s. 3 11-32d. for Bank Telegraphic and Demand and 1s. 3 1-33d. for three months' sight Credits. Business was on but a limited scale, but rates were firm, and 1s. 3 3-8d. became obtainable for Wire Transfer. For Bank Telegraphic and Demand 1s. 3 13-32d. was quoted on Monday, and for three months' sight Credits 1s. 3 5-8d., in a firm market, which was also an excited market, the Banks having been eager sellers for near delivery. Merchants' Bills were difficult to place except at high rates, and re-sales were offering. The market continued firm in tone on Tuesday at 1s. 3 19-32d. for Bank Telegraphic and Demand, and 1s. 3 25-32d. for three months' sight Credits. Mercantile Bills were scarce, but with an absence of local enquiry for Bank remittance, rates advanced to 1s. 3 11-16d., at which an enquiry set in, and a fair amount of business transpired. Weak at opening on Wednesday, rates were given at 1s. 3 5-8d. for Bank Telegraphic and Demand, and 1s. 3 13-16d. for three months' sight Credits. There was a strong enquiry for Bank remittance, and rates receded to 1s. 3 1-2d. Yesterday the market was steady at 1s. 3 21-32d. for Bank Telegraphic and Demand, and 1s. 3 23-32d. for three months' sight Credits. The latter continued scarce, but a fair enquiry set in for Bank remittance, which was freely met for December delivery, and a considerable amount changed hands. At closing yesterday rates were given as follows:—

Bank Bills on Demand		1s. 3 21-32d.	per rupee.
" Telegraphic		1s. 3 21-32d.	"
" 3 ms' sight		1s. 3 23-32d.	"
" 4 ms' do.		1s. 3 3-4d.	"
" 6 ms' do.		1s. 3 13-16d.	"
Credits	3 do.	1s. 3 7-8d.	"
Do.	6 do.	1s. 4d.	"
Documents	3 do.	1s. 3 29-32d.	"
Do.	6 do.	1s. 4 1-32d.	"
Francs	3 do.	1·67½	"
Do.	6 do.	1·68½	"

GOVERNMENT PAPER.—At opening last mail-day the market was weak and declining, and rates for 3½ per Cents receded to 97 for Cash and 96 7-8 for the January Account; Three per Cents were nominal. Though steady in tone on Monday, rates opened at a further decline in 3½ per Cents for which 96 5-8 was quoted for Cash, and 96½ for the January Settlement, with 89, nominal, for Threes. On Tuesday rates advanced 1-16 to 1-8 per cent. on those of the previous day and 3½ per Cents were given at 96 9-16 for Money and 96⅝ for Account; Threes remained at 89, nominal. There was a quiet feeling in the market on Wednesday with rates at about the previous day's level, which closed at 96½ for Cash, for 3½ per Cents, and 96 9-16 for the next Account; Threes were unchanged at 89. The market was weak yesterday at 96 for Cash, for 3 1-2 per Cents, and 96 1-8 for the January Account, at which it closed till Tuesday next.

Municipal 5 per cent. Loan has remained at 121, and Port Trust Bonds at 104.

SHARES have been dull during the past week, and prices have shown a declining tendency. Our revised list reports a decline of Rs. 40 in New Great Eastern Mill, Rs. 25 in Britannia, Rs. 25 in Bombay Cotton Manufacturing, Rs. 20 in Alliance, Rs. 15 in Khatao Mukunjee, Rs. 10 each in Western India, Bombay United, City of Bombay, and Coorla, Rs. 6 1-4 in Mazagon, Rs. 5 in Swadeshi, and Rs. 2 1-2 each in David and Colaba Land and Mill. In Presses, Albert have declined Rs. 55, Breul's Cawnpore and Fort Rs. 15 each, Rs. 2 1-4 in New Indian, and English have advanced Rs. 3 3-4. In Bank and Miscellaneous Scrip no change is reported.

IMPORTS.

PIECE-GOODS.—The rates asked last week for "Grey Goods" have been maintained in a steady market, and holders are not in a position to make any reduction in face of the unfavourable exchange. Prices, however, are gradually giving way in some directions, but this has not produced the expected affect on the market yet. In "Bleached," "Dyed," "Turkey-red," and "Printed Goods" a fair business has transpired at current rates. There has been good demand for colored stuffs. The market for Locally-made goods is steady, with prices generally as before. The clearances from the bazaar have amounted to 3,500 packages; and of local goods to 1,500 bales.

YARNS have been in moderate demand. From China the enquiry shows no improvement, but from Calcutta and up-country buyers there has been a little enquiry. The market closes quiet at the following official quotations:—

	No.		As.				
Twist	6s	Mule	As.	3 3-4	to	4 3-8	per lb.
"	8s	"	"	3 7-8	"	4 1-2	"
"	10s	"	"	4	"	4 3-4	"
"	12s	"	"	4 1-4	"	5	"
"	16s	"	"	4 13-16	"	5 1-2	"
"	20s	"	"	5 1-8	"	5 3-4	"
"	24s	"	"	5 3-4	"	6 3-8	"
"	30s	"	"	6 1-2	"	7	"
"	40s	"	"	7 1-4	"	8	"

METALS.—*Brasiers' Copper* has declined to Rs. 46-6 per cwt.; and *Yellow Metal* to Rs. 38-2 per cwt. In *Welsh Bars* there has also been a decline at Rs. 32-8 per candy, and in *Swedish Bar Iron* as well, at Rs. 53 per candy.

COALS.—Owing to the steady rise in sterling exchange importers are able to sell English Coal cheaper, *Powels Duffryn* and *Davison's Welsh Hartley*, for February, March, and April shipments, being quoted at Rs. 16 3-4 and Rs. 15 1-2 per ton, respectively. In Bengal descriptions retail lots of *Seetpore* have changed hands at Rs. 13-6-0 per ton. The market closes with a steady feeling; we quote alongside:—

	Ready.	Forward.
Welsh Hartley	Nil	Nil
West "	Nil	Rs. 15 1-2 per ton.
Australian	Nil	Nil
Powell's	Rs. 22 per ton	Rs. 19 to 16 3-4 "
Cardiff	" 22 "	" 19 to 16 3-4 "
Japan	Nil	Nil
Bengal	" 13 1-2 "	" 13 1-2 "
Singareni	Nil	Nil
Seetpore	" 13 1-2 "	" 13 1-2 "
Sanctoria	Nil	Nil
Deshagur	" 14 "	" 14 "

EXPORTS.

COTTON.—In the earlier part of the week under notice this market was quiet to dull in tone, and only a small amount of business was passing in both directions, while prices were a shade lower. Yesterday, however, a large business transpired, and some 5,400 bales were done, mainly by local spinners in ready new Oomra descriptions and Bengal, and some contracts for Barsee, Broach Bhownuggur, and Dharwar, for January-February March, and May delivery, respectively, were reported for the same account, but Exporters took only a few hundred bales each of ready new Oomras and Bengal. Last evening (from when the holiday's commenced) the market closed steady with prices Rs. 2 per candy higher.

The Receipts of new Cotton into Bombay during the past week have been 23,200 bales, compared with 23,700 bales arrived in the week preceding; and 33,500 bales in the corresponding week last year; the falling off in receipts this season, as against last, for the same time being now 115,300 bales.

Monday's telegraphic advices regarding the state of the Cotton crop added no new feature to the reports received in the middle of last week. Picking was general over the Bengal and Oomrawatee circles; but arrivals at the district marts remained upon a small scale. The plants in all the districts of the Broach, Dhollera and Dharwar circles were flourishing and progressing to maturity in seasonable weather.

The advices received by wire yesterday morning from the districts reported cotton-picking to be general at Beawar, Khangaum, and Barsi; while at Amraoti small quantities continued to arrive. The weather was still seasonable throughout.

The following are to-day's quotations for full-pressed Cotton with the equivalents in sterling, cost, and freight to Liverpool, via Canal, without commission, viz.:—

		Per Candy.	Per C. & F.
Bengal, Fine		Rs.	146—3 1-32d.
Do. do.	March 1898	"	148—3 1-8d.
Do. Fully Good		"	131—2 7-8d.
Do. do.	March 1898	"	138—2 21-32d.
Do. Good		"	130—2 25-32d.
Belatee, Fine		"	145—3 1-16d.
Do. Fully Good		"	142—2 31-32d.
Khandesh, Fully Good		"	143—2 31-32d.
Oomra, Fully Good		"	158—3 7-32d.
Dholera, Fine		"	Nil
Do. do.	April-May 1898	"	161—3 7-16d.
Do. Fully Good		"	Nil
Do. do.	April-May 1898	"	156—3 9-32d.
Do. Good		"	Nil
Do. do.	April-May 1898	"	154—3 1-4d.
S G Dharwar, Good		"	Nil
Do. do. do.	May 1898	"	167—3 7-16d.
Westerns		"	Nil
Broach, Fine		"	Nil
Do. do.	March 1898	"	176—3 9-16d.
Do. Good		"	Nil
Do. do.	March 1898	"	174—3 17-32d.

The Arrivals of New Crop Cotton into Bombay this season, as compared with last, are as follows:—

	Season. 1897-98. F. P. Bales.	Season. 1896-97. F. P. Bales.
Bengals	21,500	84,000
Berar	31,000	58,500
Khandeish	25,500	47,500
Barsee and Nugger	500	2,500
Hingunghat	1,200	2,500
	79,700	195,000

The movements of Cotton to date show the following comparison with the previous two years:—

Receipts.	1897. Bales.	1896. Bales.	1895. Bales.
For 6 days	25,015	31,473	57,075
From 1st Jan. to 22nd December	1,422,[illegible]	1,909,250	1,848,630
Clearances to Great Britain and Continent.			
For 6 days	1,635	1,890	9,763
From 1st Jan. to 22nd December	498,470	756,907	608,240
Clearances to Calcutta, China, Japan, &c.			
For 6 days	2,163	9,552	2,792
From 1st Jan. to 22nd December	436,541	344,293	171,211

WHEAT AND SEEDS.—These markets remain in the previous quiet state, pending the receipt of supplies; and, with the exception of a rather better enquiry for *Linseed* we have no new feature to report. Quotations generaly are to a great extent nominal; but we give the following:—

The comparative Imports of Wheat and Seeds are as follows:—

	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Wheat for 6 days	35,598	12,867	61,396
Do. from 1st January to 22nd Dec.	1,809,492	3,860,093	4,993,340
Linseed for 6 days	20,945	2,154	6,601
Do. from 1st January to 22nd Dec.	577,958	3,469,458	2,710,001
Rapeseed for 6 days	5,286	400	2,336
Do. from 1st January to 22nd Dec.	1,838,455	1,237,283	2,097,814
Gingellyseed for 6 days	80,904	7,185	43,487
Do. from 1st January to 22nd Dec.	1,054,471	1,167,255	1,424,023

The clearances of Wheat and Seeds to Great Britain and Continent are as follows:—

	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Wheat for 6 days	...	...	16,608
Do. from 1st January to 22nd Dec.	2,913	1,429,572	2,492,825
Linseed for 6 days	31,043	10,036	2,942
Do. from 1st January to 22nd Dec.	736,831	3,211,613	2,623,723
Rapeseed for 6 days	8,508	6,027	990
Do. from 1st January to 22nd Dec.	1,834,350	1,480,514	1,815,823
Gingellyseed for 6 days	6,001	1,044	14,773
Do. from 1st January to 22nd Dec.	672,943	1,173,811	1,356,125

DIVINE SERVICE.

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS, DECEMBER 26.

SAINT THOMAS' CATHEDRAL.

7-30 a.m.—Matins.
8 a.m.—Holy Communion (Choral). Tours in C.—Hymns Introit 1, 59, 189 and 552.
5 p.m.—Children's Service.
6 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon.—Hymns 12 and 60. Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, Smart in F. Anthem.—Behold I bring good tidings (Goss).

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, MALABAR HILL.

Christmas Day, December 25.
8 a.m.—Matins and Holy Communion.

Sunday, December 26.
7-30 a.m.—Matins, and Holy Communion.
5 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon.
Collections for the Indo-British.

FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(Waudby Road, Esplanade).
4-30 p.m.—Sunday School, and Bible Classes.
6 p.m.—Evening Service.—Hymns 195, 60 and 180. Psalm 102. Verses 13-19.
11 a.m.—Joint Service in St. Andrew's Church.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCHES.

BOWEN CHURCH—Apollo Bunder.
Behind the Apollo Hotel.
9-45 a.m.—Sunday School.
11 a.m.—Sermon by Rev. F. Wood.
6 p.m.—Sermon by Rev. L. F. How.
Wednesday, 6 p.m.—Prayer Meeting.

GRANT ROAD CHURCH.
7-30 a.m.—Sunday School.
8-45 a.m. and 6 p.m.—Sermon by Rev. W. H. Stephens.
Wednesday, 6 p.m.—Prayer Meeting.

MAZAGON CHURCH—Wari Bunder.
6 p.m.—Sermon.

SEAMEN'S REST, FRERE ROAD.
7-30 p.m.—Service by Rev. F. Wood.

MISSION CHURCH, GIRGAUM.

7 a.m.—Holy Communion.
11 a.m.—Morning Prayer and Sermon by Rev. W. H. Dixon.—Hymns 73, 48 and 52.
4-30 p.m.—Service for the young.
6 p.m.—Evening Prayer and Sermon by Rev. W. G. Peel. Hymns 83, 53 and 55.
Offertories for the Church Missionary Society.

ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH.

Christmas Day, December 25.
6 a.m.—Holy Eucharist.
7 a.m.—Matins.
7-30 a.m.—Holy Eucharist (Choral).
6-30 p.m.—Evensong.

First Sunday after Christmas, December 26.
7 a.m.—Matins.
7-30 a.m.—Holy Eucharist (Choral).
6-30 p.m.—Solemn Evensong, Sermon, and Procession—Hymns 58, 4[illegible] 52 tune 298, 62 and 58.

St John's Day, Monday, December 27.
7 a.m.—Matins.

Holy Innocent's Day, Tuesday, December 28.
7 a.m.—Holy Eucharist.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, MAZAGON.

6 a.m.—Holy Eucharist.
7 a.m.—Holy Eucharist (Choral). Preacher Rev. Father Biscoe.
10 a.m.—Matins.
6 p.m.—Evensong (Choral). Preacher, Rev. Fr. Gardner. Alms for Organ and Choir.

CHRIST CHURCH, BYCULLA.

7-30 a.m.—Matins.
8 a.m.—Holy Communion (Choral)—Hymns 62, 588 and 56.
4-45 p.m.—Sunday School.
6 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon.—Hymns 59, 60 and 62.

SAINT ANDREW'S CHURCH.

11 a.m.—Morning Service.—Hymns 37, 31, 186 and 199.
6 p.m.—Evening Service.—Hymns 16, 23, 338 and 309.

UNDELIVERED TELEGRAMS.

THE following is a list of messages remaining undelivered in the Central Telegraph Office, Bombay, during the week ending 23rd December:—

Station from.	Address in full as received.
Lucknow	F. Rooke, Oudh Vol. Rifles.
Miraj S. M.	M. C. Gill, Esqr. Gaute Lane.
Ke mtovi T. S.	K. Bloomfield, Passenger R. S. S. Oriental.
Kirnari	Mr. Noormahomed, Secretaries Bungalow Mohola No. 196 Apollo Bunder.
Colombo	Nana Kandayanayado.
Cannanore	Shapoorjee Hormasjee.
Karachi City	Ardesar Farsi, Nal Bazar.
Quetta	Asst. Surgeon P. N. DeSoora, Station Hospital Colaba.

G. I. P. RAILWAY.

(Open 1,491½ Miles.)

THE following is the Statement of Traffic for week ending 18th December, 1897:—

	Coaching Traffic. Receipts.	Merchandise and Mineral Traffic. Receipts.	Other Earnings (Estimated)	Total Earnings
Total	Rs. 1,00,102	Rs. 5,41,939	Rs. 6,287	Rs. 6,48,328
Corresponding week last year. Open 1,491½ Miles.	—	—	—	7,14,815

Decrease .... Rs. 66,487

THE BOMBAY GAZETTE OVERLAND SUMMARY.

(Compiled for despatch by the Weekly Mail to Europe.)

CONTENTS:—

1 DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES—HOMEWARD MAILS FROM BOMBAY—OUTWARD MAILS FROM EUROPE—HEADS OF INTELLIGENCE.
2-3-4 THE WEEK.
5 Bombay Rif[illegible] Club—Piracy in the Persian Gulf—Calcutta in the Season.
6-7-8-9 The Tirah Expedition—Tribesmen and their Punishment—The March to Dwatoi—With the Kurram Column—From Sandana to Saragheri.
10 Bombay Municipal Corporation—The Viceroy's Council.
11 BOMBAY AND PRESIDENCY.
12 Arrival of the Troopship Simla—SPORTING NEWS—Bombay Se[illegible] Extra Meeting—Royal Bombay Golf Club—The Vacancy in the Legislative Council.
13 LEADING ARTICLES: The Disaffected Press and English Abettors—Th[illegible] Prevention of Plague.
14 LEADING ARTICLES: The Forward Policy and Russia—The Municipa[illegible] Commissioner's Report on the Plague.
15 LEADING ARTICLES: The Loss of Trade by Plague and Famine—Ger[illegible] Aspirations in the Far East.
16 Military News—Picturesque India, by Sir Richard Temple, Bart., I. Introductory.
17 A Month at Sea [illegible] an Open Boat—The Poona Murders.
18-19 The City Mort[illegible]
20 Presidency Pla[illegible] Mortality—Royal Bombay Yacht Club—Tapti Valley Railway—Fires in Bombay—MADRAS.
21 Visit of the Governor [illegible] Quarantine Camps—The Moradabad Sedition Case—The General Family Relief Society.
22 Bombay Legislative Council.
23 Indian Crop Prosp[illegible]
24-25 "Don't Let the [illegible] BENGAL—MISCELLANEOUS—SHIPPING [illegible] OFFICIAL GAZETTES—Government [illegible] Provincial Gazette—Bombay Gove[illegible]
26-27 COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE [illegible] Price Current—Bombay Mark[illegible]
8 ADVERTISEMENTS.

PICTURESQUE INDIA

A Series of Articles by

The Right Hon'ble SIR RICHARD TEMPLE,

BART., G.C.S.I., &c.,

Now appearing in the Columns of the

BOMBAY GAZETTE.

2. THE INDIAN FRONTIER.—The Tribes. The Disturbing Element.—APPEARS NEXT WEEK.
3. THE INDIAN PRINCES.—I. The Men.
4. THE INDIAN PRINCES.—II. Their Establishments.
5. THE NATIVE RACES.—Customs, &c.
6 JUNGLE HUNTING.
7 THE INDIAN RELIGIONS.
8. THE GOVERNMENT.—From Empress to Tax-gatherer.
9. INDIA'S PROGRESS UNDER BRITISH RULE.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

COOMBS—December 5, at Meerut, the wife of A. H. Coombs, Engineer, of a son.
KAYE—December 21, at Allahabad, the wife of G. R. Kaye, of a daughter.
SEMPLE—December 17, at Kasauli, the wife of Surgeon-Major J. Semple, A. M. S., of a daughter.
WRIGHT—December 10, at Rangoon the wife of C. M. P. Wright, the Choukpazat Gold Mining Company, Limited, of a daughter.
WALKER—December 5, at Darjeeling Musical Exchange, the wife of J. W. Walker, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

CHURCH—McCASKIE—December 16, at St. Paul's Cathedral, Calcutta, by the Rev. H. Whitehead, Principal of Bishop's College, Arthur John Bromley Church, Connaught Rangers, eldest son of Canon Church, Wells Cathedral, England, to Margaret Frances, eldest daughter of the late Chas. McCaskie, Esq., Huddersfield, England.

DEATHS.

COMINS—December 16, at Nowgong, Central India, Esther Blanche, the beloved wife of Captain Henry Comins, 1st Bengal Infantry, aged 34.
HUSBAND—December 13, at Ajmere, Isabella Roy, wife of the Rev. J. Husband, F. R. C. S., E., C. I. E.
PANIOTY—December 10, at 2, Vansittart Row, Calcutta Perrine Eliza, widow of Demetrius Panioty, C. I. E., Assistant Private Secretary to H. E. the Viceroy, aged 72 years, 1 month and 26 days.
SALT—December 4, at the Kuawa'a Tea Estate, Dehra Dun, N.-W. P., John William Salt, aged 61 years and 7 months.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*** ALL communications intended for publication in our columns, should be addressed to the Editor and not to any individual member of the staff.

The Bombay Gazette

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1897.

To understand Admiral Hext's evidence before the Welby Commission and to reconcile the apparently conflicting opinions regarding the employment of the Indian Marine, it is necessary to consider the circumstances under which the service was established. The objections raised have more especial reference to the incidence and cost of the work done by the Navy and Marine, respectively. In 1863 when the Indian Navy was abolished the Admiralty undertook to provide at Imperial cost for the general defence of India, but at the same time they stipulated they would only perform the duties ordinarily appertaining to the Navy, leaving the Indian Authorities to arrange for local requirements in the way of trooping, police, and political duties. For this work they recommended the employment of a small local marine. At this time the Indian Navy consisted of 24 sea-going and 30 inland vessels with an establishment of 1,174 Europeans and 1,316 Natives, and this was in addition to the Bengal Marine. From this force was then established the Bombay and Bengal Marines. As they worked on no systematic plan, without adequate supervision or control, but one result could be expected. In 1870 the service had become so unsatisfactory that although nominally consisting of 21 sea-going and eight river steamers, no vessels were available for trooping, and about seven lakhs were spent annually in Bombay alone for the line of transports, whilst in Bengal only a small tug was fit to go to sea. Admiral Sir W. Mends was first sent to report, and subsequently in 1874 Admiral Bythesia came out to assist the Indian Government. As the result of their reports and advice the present R. I. M. was established in 1879 by the amalgamation of the various local marines into one homogeneous service under proper system and rules. When it is remembered that it took sixteen years to establish this marine after the abolition of the Indian Navy, it is apparent the subject received full consideration. Admiral Bythesia raised the question of relegating the whole of the duties to the Navy, but the Admiralty were then, as in 1863, unable to undertake any of the civil duties to be performed. Considering the increased calls upon the Navy of to-day, it is not likely any other decision would be arrived at if the question of the abolition of the Indian Marine in favour of the Royal Navy was again raised.

The increasing efficiency of the R. I. M. combined with economical administration reflects the greatest credit on the present director, who has during the last fifteen years practically established the service. Twenty years ago the net annual cost of the Marine was Rs. 22,76,357 with little or nothing to show for the money; last year the expenditure was Rs. 12,97,784, and for this India obtains eight sea-going and five inland steamers manned by forty-eight officers, who by the bye receive on an average Rs. 285 a month—certainly not an extravagant rate of pay,—49 engineers, and 1,485 natives, whilst there are two efficient dockyards at Bombay and Calcutta employing over 2,000 men daily and turning out work for every department of Government. The eight sea-going vessels consist of two troopships; one vessel in Burmah for lighthouse work and general administration; one at Aden for the local relief of troops at Perim and the Somali Coast; one at Port Blair in connection with the Convict Establishment; one in the Persian Gulf for the use of the Political authorities; one is employed surveying, and one is supposed to be in reserve to relieve any of the others for repairs and to carry out any occasional duty, such as conveying the Governors of Bombay and Madras on tour, visiting the Laccadive Islands, etc. In consequence of the loss of the Warren Hastings this last vessel is now employed for trooping. This fleet steamed last year 142,958 miles, carried 30,673 troops, 1,128 animals, 96 lakhs of specie, 5,341 tons of stores, and 57,716 packages, etc. Of the five inland vessels one is stationed at Baghdad for political purposes, and the other four employed in Burma, trooping, etc.; these last year steamed 52,000 miles, carried 17,500 men, 4,713 animals, 37 lakhs of specie, 6,600 tons of stores, and 33,962 packages. It is apparent from these figures that there is no scope at present for any reduction in the number of vessels. It is said the local trooping is to be reduced; but on the other hand the system of inter-Colonial reliefs is being extended. Since the loss of the Warren Hastings the Indian Marine has not been able to carry out all the trooping, and the necessity for another troopship has been amply proved. It has been suggested that the Admiralty employ the vessels of the Marine to keep them occupied, but the fact is the Admiralty have discovered that a Marine vessel costs about half as much as a hired transport, and as the Home authorities pay for their reliefs they study economy a little more than if India was responsible for the cost.

The point, however, to be considered is not whether the work done by the R. I. M. could be economically transferred to the Navy, as for the reasons above urged the Navy would certainly decline to have anything to do with it. The question is whether India pays too much for the work done by the Navy. When the Admiralty took over the general duties of defence in 1863 it was without charge to this country, but in 1869 the Indian Government considered it was not being properly served, and undertook to pay the Admiralty £70,000 a year on condition that six men-of-war were permanently kept in Indian waters, three of which were to be stationed in the Persian Gulf, one at Aden, one in the Bay of Bengal, and one in reserve at Bombay. In 1887 it was considered one ship in the Persian Gulf would be sufficient, and the numbers were therefore reduced to four and the annual subsidy to £38,500; but this subsidy was increased in 1891 to £50,900, and in 1895 to £100,000. This was done by the Home authorities without any alteration being made in the number of vessels. It is against this increase that India seems to have a reasonable cause of complaint, for it must not be forgotten that in 1887 India provided a Defence Squadron for Bombay consisting of two turret ships, two torpedo catchers, seven torpedo boats, and one hulk for which an additional annual subsidy of £60,000 is paid to the Admiralty. The annual payment to the Navy is thus £160,000, for which it is doubtful whether this country gets an adequate return. India is quite willing to bear its fair share of the cost of the Navy for the general protection of the Empire, but is entitled to be treated on, at all events, as liberal a footing as the Colonies. Australia now pays £126,000 a year, but for this it gets an efficient Squadron, which is in addition to the ordinary fleet stationed there. But any old tubs are considered good enough for India, and the subsidy paid is supposed to cover the cost of the four vessels detailed for Indian duties which are taken from the small squadron employed on the Indian station. Under these circumstances it becomes a question whether it is necessary for this country to retain four men-of-war for special duty, seeing that in the Persian Gulf and at Aden it is necessary also to keep vessels of the Indian Marine for the civil duties the Navy are unwilling to perform. Consequently the special allocation of particular vessels for Indian duties no longer seems necessary. It would be sufficient for India to pay the Admiralty an annual subsidy for general defence, leaving it to the Naval Authorities to settle and provide the force necessary, but the subsidy paid for this by India should be fixed on a more liberal basis with some regard to the resources of the Empire.

BY invitation of the editor of "the National Review" Mr. H. M. Birdwood, C.S.I., has written an article for the December number of that publication on "the Queen as a Mohamedan Sovereign." The article is well worth perusal, and will, it may be hoped, contribute to the much-to-be-desired solution of the Mussulman problem. Mr. Birdwood, as might be supposed, adds the weight of his learning to the contention that the Sultan of Turkey's claim to spiritual away in countries where Mohamedans live under the rule of a Christian Sovereign as in India is invalid. But the most interesting portion of the article is that in which he deals with the backward condition of the Moslems of India from an educational standpoint. Government, he points out, is not in itself in a position to remedy this unfortunate condition of things. "It cannot prescribe an easier test for Mohammedans for the public service than it enforces for Christians, Jews, Parsees and Hindus." Reform must come from within. "If Indian Mohamedans would take their part in the civil administration of their own country they must not shun the taste of acquiring the requisite educational qualifications without which they can never worthily discharge the duties of difficult and responsible posts to which with such qualifications they could rightfully aspire, and they will never improve their present position unless they make a resolute effort to conquer their unwillingness to take the torch of knowledge from our hands." He proposes the organisation of some well considered scheme for encouraging the rising generation to make further use than hitherto of the means of education provided in primary or secondary schools or in the government or private colleges affiliated to the University." He also suggests that wealthy Mussulmans could not make better use of their means than by endowing scholarships, fellowships, and other incentives to educational efficiency. Mussulman reformers have a hard battle to wage. Mr. Birdwood adds sympathetically: "We can make their way the smoother by extending to them our respect and sympathy as fellow subjects united to them by the common allegiance and devotion of the same sovereign, and by regulating all our public utterances in reference to men and matters which they hold in reverence by the law of Christian courtesy."

IT is the misfortune of the Sanitary Commissioner of the Central Provinces to have to describe the vital statistics of last year as the most unfavourable ever recorded. Unfortunately the sad record is likely to be exceeded in the year that will a few days hence be numbered with the past. In the month of October, 1896, famine conditions were established in all but a few favoured districts, and these conditions following upon a succession of bad seasons, found the people with greatly straightened resources, ill able to resist the inset of privation and disease. The Famine just closed has been the most terrible calamity that has ever afflicted the Central Provinces since British rule began. The history of the visitation belongs mainly to the expiring year, but it had already told heavily on the mortality tables before 1896 closed. The total deaths numbered over 468,000, the rate being 49·31 per mille, as compared with 36·75 in the previous year. The nearest approach to this alarming figure during the last decade was in 1889, when the rate was 43·79. In both years the abnormal mortality was principally due to widespread and very destructive epidemics of fever and cholera, the deaths from the latter disease being close upon 6 per mille of the population. The pressure of distress and the meteorological conditions last year were both alike favourable to the development of these diseases. Cholera was most prevalent during the exceedingly dry and hot spring and summer, and the scanty and foul water supply which was the natural result of the drought is looked upon as the main cause of the outbreak. The mortality amongst the aboriginal and jungle races was exceptionally high, being no less than 87·34 per mille, against 42·69 among Hindus and 43·12 among Musalmans. The death-rate of several of the towns was swollen by the presence in the poor houses of large numbers of destitute strangers, many of whom are said to have come from Baghelkhund and Bundelkhund. The impression has prevailed in some quarters that the scarcity in the Central Provinces was not so promptly combatted as in most other Provinces, and that this was the cause of the inroad made by the calamity upon the vitality of the people being heavier there than in any other part of the Empire. The present report does not of course go into that question, the answer to which will no doubt be embodied in the famine literature. But the report shows clearly enough that the sanitary authorities of the Central Provinces were confronted with very special difficulties. It does not show with equal clearness what were the special measures taken to combat them, though, no doubt, these were carefully planned and energetically carried out.

THE report of the Director of Public Instruction in Jeypur is a pleasant document inasmuch as it is a record of steady progress. Much has been achieved under the fostering care of the Durbar. Jeypur, it is claimed, is now the only State in all Rajputana that can boast of a fully equipped Education Department, enabling the people to reap the benefits of a liberal education and to keep pace with those of other provinces in the race of culture and progress. The total number of institutions in the State during the year was 733 wi[illegible] 24,850 scholars, showing an increase of [illegible] schools and 590 scholars. The proportion [illegible] pupils to the population of school-going a[illegible] Jeypur compares most favourably with th[illegible] the N.-W. P. and Oudh; for while i[illegible] former the percentages were 10·9 for [illegible] 27 for girls, and 5·9 for boys and girls together, the corresponding figures in th[illegible] were only 7·9, ·39 and 4·23, res[illegible] The total expenditure on education [illegible] to Rs. 1,37,456 against Rs. 1,29,76[illegible] preceding year; of the former sum [illegible] were disbursed by the Durbar, [illegible] viz., Rs. 59,581, was met from [illegible] The proportions shared by the [illegible] were Rs. 8,746 and Rs. 42,792, res[illegible]

AT a time when so much is said and [illegible] respecting the displacement of Indian [illegible] industries by the establishment of British methods it is refreshing to read of one small industry which only originated four or five generations ago, and which is regularly carried on quite independently of European supervision or methods. It is the ornamental work in Bison horn, in the Ratnagiri district, concerning which Mr. E. H. Aitken writes in a new number of the Agricultural Ledger. Bison horn is used because Brahmins, who are principal customers, would not purchase articles made of cow horn. The horns are procured from Malabar at a cost of Rs. 1-8 or Rs. 2 each. The artificers, who are carpenters and metal workers, go by no models or designs. Most of the figures they produce are traditional, the commonest article being a *nandi*, or sacred bull, supporting a flat tray with a cobra out of the middle of it and rising over the tray with expanded hood. The hood is in one piece made from the solid half of the horn, which is always black. The pedestal and the cobra are made from the translucent section of the horn and are moulded into shape with the hands. For this purpose the horn is kept moist with cocoanut oil and heated before a fire until it becomes almost as soft as wax. It is then worked or pressed into the required form, and finished off with scraping tools and a small lathe. The use of cocoanut oil for softening the oil is strongly commended by Mr. Hooper, Curator of the Economic section of the Indian Museum, who writes an introductory note to Mr. Aitken's description. Mr. Hooper says it is greatly preferable to the method adopted in England of immersing the horn in water, and afterwards in an acid bath for two weeks. The process used in Ratnagiri does not discolour the horn; the small portion of the oil absorbed only helps to permanently consolidate the fibrous structure of which it is composed, giving a translucency to the finished article not observed in the horn work of other localities. The figures employed in ornamentation are of a kind familiar to all who are acquainted with Indian brass work, and embroidery consisting of circles with regular or undulating circumferences radiating lines, loops and rings, arranged in graceful patterns. The articles vary in price, but some of them are very valuable, a candelabrum of artistic design having been lately sold in Bombay for no less than Rs. 200. The articles commonly made include ornamental cups, covers for tea cups, buttons and well finished round boxes or caskets for holding tooth-powder or other toilet requisites. Brahmins are the principal purchasers, but the larger pieces of work are hawked about among Europeans and wealthy natives until a buyer is found. The horn industry also exists in Bengal, the Madras Presidency, and Rajputana, but in them the buffalao horn is used, and ornamental work in bison horn seems to be confined to Ratnagiri.

MR. H. H. HAYDEN, of the Geological Survey of India, has recently visited the supposed coal fields at Baxa Duars on the borders of Butan. To begin with he encountered great difficulties in getting there at all, as the place can only be reached on elephants. The supposed coal is really lignite, and is found in the valleys to the north and north-east of Jaintia. The locality visited is about two miles to the E.N.E. of the village of Jaintia. Here, it seems, the lignite occurs in bluish-grey and yellowish sandstones of tertiary age, which dip mostly at high angles to the S.W., but the dip is variable both in direction and mount, though always steep. In some cases large areas have been exposed on the plane of bedding, and the true character of the deposit is made evident. It consists of a sandstone containing isolated logs of lignite. The wood had evidently floated down the rivers and, becoming waterlogged, had sunk in the estuaries, where it was embedded in the sand. Though the lignite, according to an analysis made by Dr. Saise, is of very good quality, having only a small percentage of ash, the isolated manner in which it occurs renders it of little value, and for the purpose of fuel supply for a railway, Mr. Hayden pronounces it useless. It occurs in such small quantities, and is so scattered that even were the difficulties of access less great it would not repay the cost of hewing.

HIS EXCELLENCY LORD SANDHURST will arrive from Mahableshwar at the Victoria Terminus by the 11-15 a.m. (Railway time) train, on Tuesday next. His Excellency's arrival will be private.

ON Saturday, the 1st January 1898, the Anniversary of the Proclamation of the Assumption of the title of "Empress of India" by Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, the troops in Garrison will parade in Review Order—Summer Clothing—at 7-30 a.m., as follows:—At Colaba, the Royal Artillery and the 2nd Middlesex Regiment. On the General Parade Ground, the 21st and 22nd Regiments, Bombay Infantry.

TELEGRAPHIC advice received from Shanghai show that the fortnightly sales of yarn at that place are reported at 6,500 bales. Exchange on Bombay is Rs. 204.

NOTHING has yet been definitely settled with regard to filling the appointment of Advocate-General, Madras. The matter is still in the hands of the Secretary of State.

THE adoption ceremony of the Vizianagram Minor took place at Vizianagram on the 18th instant. The reason why the Maharanee adopted him has her own son was that as the late Marajah's wife died before him there was no widow left to adopt, and adoption can only be done by the widow.

IT is notified for information that there will be no district Assault-at-Arms held at Mian Mir during the current cold season. Officers Commanding stations will arrange for local assaults on such dates as may seem best suited to them, with reference to the return of the troops from the front, and the movement of corps in relief. The Officer Commanding at Mian Mir will include Amritsar in his Assault-at-Arms.

THERE is a decrease of over 7 per cent. in the cotton outturn of the North-West Provinces and Oudh this year. Two causes contributed to this result. Cotton is an early sowing, and the delay in the commencement of the regular rains caused a smaller area than usual to be sown, whilst in many parts the famine of the previous year had caused food-grains to be sown, instead of cotton. As compared with the cotton area returns for the past ten years, this year's average shows a decrease of 21 per cent. Apart from this, however, the past year has been a favourable one for cotton cultivation, and not only have the crops been greater in quantity but the quality of the fibre throughout is reported as satisfactory.

THERE may be a difference of opinion regarding the most suitable machinery for repressing seditious publications, but says the *Pioneer* there can be none regarding the necessity of some check. We have before us a translation from a Mahratta newspaper published at Wai in the Deccan, called the *Moda Vritt*. The article deals with the Tirah Expedition and runs as follows:—

"The only appreciation shown by the military authorities of the distinguished valour displayed by the native troops on the frontier consists of mere empty praise. This course of conduct may be creditable to Christian morality, English gratitude, but looked at from the point of view of Hindu morality it betrays singular indifference. We must be thankful to the Commander-in-Chief even for the meed of praise he has thought fit to bestow on the native sepoy. What could we have done if he had accused him of disloyalty, for lowering the prestige of the British soldier by surpassing him in point of daring and gallantry? We do not see the wisdom of wasting the country's money and lessening the stability of the Empire by employing hi[illegible] paid British troops when a much cheaper articl[illegible] undoubted loyalty [illegible]

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DERVISHES.

LONDON, Dec. 24.

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IGN ON THE NORTH-ST FRONTIER.

N OF THE *STANDARD* AND THE *TIMES*.

LONDON, Dec. 24.

dard, commenting upon the remarks
by the *Pioneer* regarding the operations
yond the North-West Frontier, declare
ubtless blunders have been made which will
quire investigation, but the paper is convinced that some of the accusations of the *Pioneer* are exaggerated and baseless, and the failure to bring the enemy to terms is, the *Standard* states, ascribable mainly to the Generals underrating the strength and spirit of the enemy.

The *Times*, in a leading article, says that Little Englanders' spirit is apparently finding an echo in India.

THE EMPEROR WILLIAM SENDS THE QUEEN A LETTER.

LONDON, Dec. 23.

It has transpired that Prince Henry was the bearer of a long letter from the Emperor William to the Queen when he lately went to Osborne to bid farewell to her Majesty before his departure for China.

SPEECH OF THE EMPEROR WILLIAM AT GRANDEUZ.

Significance is attached to a speech made by the Emperor William at the frontier fortress of Grandeuz in West Prussia in which his Imperial Majesty alluded to the Tsar as his dear friend, who had the same political views as his own.

FRENCH NAVAL REINFORCEMENTS FOR CHINA.

The French cruisers Jeanne d'Arc and Pascal have sailed for the Far East to reinforce the French squadron there.

NEW AMERICAN MINISTER AT PEKIN.

Colonel Bryan has been appointed American Minister at Pekin.

THE MAILS.

LONDON, Dec. 23.

The Bombay mails of the 11th instant, arrived at Brindisi, yesterday.

SUEZ, Dec. 24.

The P. and O. Company's s. s. Ballaarat, with the outward mails of the 17th instant left here, at 9 p.m., to-day.

THE FAMINE.

APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY.

APPRECIATION BY THE VICEROY.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, Dec. 24.

The appointment is notified of a small Commission, consisting of Sir James Lyall, Surgeon-Colonel Richardson, Messrs. Holderness and Bigham, and Rai Bahadur Bipin Krishna Bose, to perambulate India and collate experience gained in the management of the famine for future benefit.

A notification states that the Viceroy will take another opportunity of publicly expressing his appreciation of the manner in which the operations for the relief of distress has been conducted, but the information already at his disposal warrants him in believing that regarded with reference to their object in which was to prevent the loss of human life from starvation at the smallest expense to the tax-paying community, these operations on the whole have been conspicuously successful.

CROP PROSPECTS.

The numbers under famine relief in India have now dropped to less than half-a-lakh, almost the whole of which is distributed between Bombay and the Central Provinces. The prices of food-grains generally continue to fall slightly, but there is no improvement in the prospects in Madras, and the dry crops generally in parts of it are suffering from want of rain. Rain is urgently wanted also over a wide area of the Bombay Presidency, late crops being in a withering condition in parts of Sholapur, Ahmednagar, and Bijapur. In the North-West Provinces also rain is generally needed, while in the Central Provinces it would also be beneficial in all districts. With these exceptions the prospects generally continue excellent, and the winter crops promise almost a bumper harvest.

REGIMENTAL MOVEMENTS.

POONA, Dec. 24.

The 2nd Battalion Durham Light Infantry will proceed from Poona to Bombay, Deesa, Ahmedabad, and Deolali, to relieve the 2nd Battalion Middlesex Regiment. The Headquarters of the Durham Light Infantry will be railed from Poona to Bombay on the 15th January, and the detachment for Deesa, Ahmedabad, and Deolali on the 13th.

The 1st Battalion Shropshire Light Infantry will arrive at Poona from Sitapur and Benares on the 17th January. An advance party of 5 officers, 40 Non-Commissioned officers, and 254 men will arrive in Poona on the 5th January to relieve the men of the Durhams, who are employed on plague duty at Poona and Sholapur, with view to their being segregated for ten days before proceeding with their regiment.

The 1st Bombay Lancers will march from Nasirabad and Neemuch to Ahmednagar, leaving on the [illegible] January, and arriving on the [illegible] February, and thence be railed to Poona, arriving on the 14th February.

The 2nd Bombay Lancers will march from Poona to Deesa and Rajkote on the 15th January, arriving there on the 1st and 2nd March. The men on plague and other duties at Poona will be relieved by a detachment of the Poona Horse and segregated for ten days.

THE PESTILENCE IN POONA.

There were 20 cases and 19 deaths in the city to-day, and 3 cases and 5 deaths in the cantonment; and in the district 10 cases and 8 deaths.

In the General Plague Hospital 15 were admitted, 20 discharged cured, and 5 died; and in the Hindu one was admitted.

There are now 500 patients in the different hospitals.

BOMBAY COMMAND ORDERS.

Military Works Department—Second-Lieutenant Eustace, Royal Engineers, is transferred to Mhow to the charge of the Kamptee Sub-Division, Military Works.

Under instructions received from the War Office, it is notified that Major H. Montgomery Campbell, No. 10 Mountain Battery, has been transferred to the 20th Field Battery, R. A.

Captain Maunsel, 53rd Field Battery, has been transferred to the 9th Field Battery, Royal Artillery, vice Captain Strange, transferred to the 43rd Field Battery.

The undermentioned officers and Warrant officers have been permitted by the Secretary of State for India to return to duty:—Lieutenant-Colonel Proudfoot, 9th Bombay Infantry; Major Davidson, A. C. (Ordnance Department); Captain Walton, Bombay Rifles; Lieutenant Griffith, 2nd Bombay; Conductor Kettle, and Sub-Conductor

Transport Department—The undermentioned Warrant officer is granted leave to India, on medical certificate:—Sub-Ordnance Department, for one

undermentioned officers have leave of absence:—20th Hussars—Lieutenants Acland, Tryte, Gossett, pending three months, on resignation pending exchange out of India. Border—Lieutenant Molesaux Leed, 6 months, medical certificate, out of India.

Extensions—4th Bombay Rifles—Colonel Grant, 6 months, on private affairs, granted by the Secretary of State for India; 3rd Bombay Light Cavalry—[illegible] by the Secretary of State for India [illegible] medical certificate, granted by the Secretary of State for India.

THE TIRAH EXPEDITION.

THE BARA CAMP.

REINFORCEMENTS.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

BARA FORT, Dec. 24.

This camp is not to be moved for the present. Large drafts have arrived for the Gordons, K. O. S. Borderers, the 28th Bombay Pioneers, 36th Sikhs, and Madras Sappers. Captain Nathan, Field Engineer, the line of communications, has proceeded to Mamani with large gangs of coolies with orders to make an eighteen feet camel road from there to Bara. The present Bara Camp is on fresh ground, well below the intake of the Peshawar water-supply.

ALI MUSJID RE-OCCUPIED.

GENERAL HAMMOND IN THE KHYBER.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS).

CALCUTTA, Dec. 24.

General Hammond advanced up the Khyber yesterday at the head of the Peshawar Column His advance guard had reached Ali Musjid at 10-45 a.m., unopposed. The village of Ladis China is deserted.

LATEST FROM THE FRONT.

THE BONERWALS SUBMISSIVE.

General Hammond's Column halts at Ali Musjid to-day, while General Lockhart pushes on with the 1st Division to occupy the Shahgai heights, which lie just beyond Ali Musjid, near where the road branches off into the Bazaar Valley. He was to be accompanied by two squadrons of the 4th Dragoon Guards which were to return to Jamrud last night. The defences of Fort Maude are meanwhile being strengthened.

The Gadun jirga, representing one of the clans connected with the Bonerwals, who just received their ultimatum from Government, came in yesterday and professed themselves ready to comply with any terms Government might ask of them. They have been told what their fine amounts to, and given time till the 2nd January to pay up—a thing which, it is expected, they will do punctually.

All continues quiet in the Kurram. Colonel Hill and staff have just moved to Thal.

THE REOCCUPATION OF ALI MASJID.

TRIBUTE TO THE I. S. TROOPS.

ALLAHABAD, Dec. 24.

A telegram to the *Pioneer*, dated Jamrud, 23rd December, states:—The 1st Division, under Major-General Symons, will march to-morrow, the 1st Brigade, under Brigadier-General Hart, leading, to the Shahgai heights, about seven miles distant. Shahgai lies near the entrance to the Khyber, beyond Forts Maude and Abdul Rahman. On the 26th General Hammond's Brigade proceeds up the Khyber to Landi Kotal. Tents have been taken for officers and men of the 1st Division. After stacking the tents at Jamrud, advance will be made on light scale from Shahgai on Christmas day. Two Brigades of the 1st Division will separate, one going to Kurmana, the other to Chora. The Division concentrates again near Walai on the 26th, and on the 27th proceeds to China. On the 28th the principal villages in the Bazar Valley will probably be visited, and then the Division will return marching as a whole or by brigades either by Lundi, Kotal or Ali Musjid or both routes. The pass lies between the Karmana and Lalla Beg, called Bara Pass. Sir William Lockhart joins the 1st Division at Shahgai at noon to-morrow (25th December). The Imperial Service Troops of the 1st Division are leaving the force to-day.

General Symons has issued the following complimentary order on the withdrawal of the Maler-Kotla Sappers and the Nabha Regiments and the Infantry from the Tirah Expeditionary Force:—"The G. O. C., 1st Division, desires to record his appreciation of the good services and soldierlike demeanour of these corps. Their discipline and good behaviour has been beyond reproach, and quite equal throughout the campaign to that of the best of our native troops. General Symons in the name of the whole division begs to thank them for their incessant hard work, which was always cheerfully performed. The Major-General's special approbation is due to Commandant Sardar Sher Singh, commanding the Nabha Regiment, and Commandant Sardar Meter Khan, commanding the Maler-Kotla Sappers. These officers displayed zeal, intelligence, and good qualities of command. The 1st Division will miss their services. They all leave with congratulations and good wishes." The Royal Sussex Regiment has joined the 1st Brigade in the place of the Devonshire Regiment.

Mamani, 23rd December.—*A few shots* were fired yesterday evening at one of the picquets from the hills, north-west of the camp. No casualties occurred. The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry marched in to-day from Bara, replacing the Northamptons, who leave for Peshawar to-morrow. The terms to be announced to the Bunerwals are: (1) A representative Jirgah to make complete submission at Mardan, an other place be fixed by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab; (2) Restoration of all Government property; (3) Surrender of 600 guns, including 60 Enfield rifles stolen on the Rustam Border; (4) Payment of a fine of Rs. 11,500. A week's grace will be given. The following terms are to be simultaneously announced to the Chamlawals who inhabit the small valleys south-east of Linner:—The surrender of 100 guns, a fine of Rs. 1,500, and the handing in of 100 swords and standards from Koga and Nawagai. (The latter village must not be mistaken for the place of the same name in Bajour.) The terms for the Gadums who live south-east of Chamlawals are also to be announced, if necessary, but like their neighbours, the Khudu Khel, they may voluntarily make their submission. The Bunerwals, Chamlawals, and Gadums had all sent contingents to fight at Malakhand and in the Swat Valley.

AliMasjid, 23rd Dec.—The Peshawar Column marched from Jamrud to Ali Masjid this morning. The heights as far as Fort Maude were crowned by two companies of the Khyber Rifles from Fort Maude and Ali Masjid. The 9th Gurkhas who were the advanced guard to the column sent out frontier parties, and occupied the commanding points. Ali Masjid was reached at 10-45 without a single shot being fired. The fort was at once occupied by a company of the Gurkhas, but the 45th Sikhs relieved them as soon as they came in, and the fort will be held by them. The villages en route are now deserted, a camp being laid out on the low spurs and on the field bordering river on the east of the fort.

ACCIDENT ON THE G. I. P. RAILWAY.

THE NAGPUR MAIL DELAYED.

WHAT might have proved to be a terrible catastrophe but for the vigilance of the guard, occurred to the up Nagpur train yesterday morning while travelling between Coorla and Sion stations *en route* to Bombay. The accident delayed the train for about an hour. Shortly after the train left Coorla, Mr. Wilson, the guard in charge, felt a sudden oscellation in the motion of the train, and on looking out noticed stones and dust flying from under one of the third-class carriages next to the brake-van, which appeared to be leaning over. He immediately applied the vacuum brake and brought the train to a standstill, a little to the north of the Sion station platform. The guard at once jumped down, and on a closer inspecton discovered that the tyre of one of the wheels of the carriage in question had broken up and a bale had been revolving on the ballast. That the passengers occupying the carriage and the brake van escaped without any injury beyond a jerk is a little short of miraculous. If the accident had not been discovered in time by the guard, and if the train, which was then travelling at a rate of forty miles an hour, had proceeded past the Sion station, the carriage would have inevitably collided with the platform, resulting in a grave disaster. The damaged vehicle with another third-class carriage and the brake van behind, having been detached, the mail was allowed to proceed on its journey, after the breakdown train had been sent from the Victoria Terminus. The line was cleared during the day, the traffic during the interval being diverted to the down line without much inconvenience. The last accident of this kind occurred about five years ago to a special train containing the 7th Fusiliers, and by which Sir George Greaves, the late Commander-in-Chief of the Bombay Army, was travelling to Kamptee. It resulted in the death of several men and injuries to others.

THE effort lately made to start a Nursing Association in the Public premises to be successful. An endeavour was made in this direction some three years ago, but failed for lack of support from the public. Sufficient has, however, now been collected to make a commencement, and we have been asked to announce that a general meeting will be held at Government House, Lahore, on the 28th instant, at 12 noon, at which Lady Young has kindly consented to preside. All who are interested in the movement are invited to attend. The business to be laid before the meeting will be as following:—1. To elect a governing body. 2. To appoint a Working Committee with power to make rules and start working. 3. To decide the place where the Home is to be located. 4. To appoint a Lady Superintendent. 5. To decide on the number [illegible] of nurses to be obtained from the [illegible] Nursing Association in England.

SILVER QUESTION.

THE UNFOUNDED RUMOURS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, Dec. 24.

Referring to the general feeling of uncertainty regarding the future of Exchange which has culminated in the application made on Thursday by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce to Government, it may be stated that the rumours to the effect that Government contemplate springing anything whatever upon the commercial community that can in the slightest degree affect the trade are entirely without foundation. Of these rumours the most definite appears to be that the Government of India contemplate going into the market to buy gold. Quite apart, however, from the fact that there is no money in the Treasury for such an undertaking, which would be a complete reversal of the policy Government have hitherto consistently followed, it has been ascertained that no such proposal is even under consideration in the Finance Department.

In this connection it may not be out of place to point out that the Calcutta "Englishman" is entirely misinformed regarding the promise alleged to have been given by Sir James Westland in 1894-95 concerning the disposal of ten crores of Cash Balances which had accumulated upon the hands of Government, the fact being that so far from any undertaking being made not to allow the accumulation to be utilised in payment of the Secretary of State's Bills, it was with the avowed object of facilatating their employment for this very purpose to which they were afterwards entirely devoted, that Sir James refused to allow them to be given out in India, as certain members of the commercial community then suggested in order to lower the local Bank rates. (Refer to the report in the *Gazette of India* of Sir James Westland's speech in the Council, delivered on the 29th March 1894.)

"GAZETTE OF INDIA" NOTIFICATIONS.

It is notified that machinery for the treatment of tobacco is exempted from import duty.

Mr. M. Bhatkcharya is posted as Assistant Comptroller, Indian Treasuries.

Mr. F. Sly, Under-Secretary, Revenue and Agriculture Department, reverts to the Central Provinces from 3rd January.

Captain Soady officiates as Inspecting Officer of the Punjab Imperial Service Troops, vice Scallon, on service.

CALCUTTA RACES.

HASTINGS' PLATE.

Walter's Pancake, 10st, Burns	1
Newall's Popot Rose, 10st, Alford	2
Goodung's Silver Prince, 10st, Loftus	3
Straw's Kimbolton, 10st 4lb, Opie	4

Also ran: Syllabus, 10st. 13lb.; The Indian, 10st 7lb.; Lord Byron, 10st. 7lb.; Morago, 10st. 3lb.; Maid Marion, 10st.; and Yellow Boy, 10st.

Betting: Twos on Silver Prince; eights Kimbolton, Pancake, and Yellow Boy; tens Popot Rose; fifteen Syllabus and The Indian; sixteen Lord Byron and Morago; and twenty Maid Marion.

The Indian and Yellow Boy held the lead from the rest, and ran well together to the Cooch Behar Cup post. Here the leaders retired, and Kimbolton for a brief space showed out at the head, but was quickly passed by Pancake, who soon held a clear lead from Silver Prince and Kimbolton. At the old stand Popot Rose displaced Kimbolton. Then at the quarter-mile both Popot Rose and Silver Prince joined Pancake, but turning for home Pancake again drew out and sailed in comfortably, winning by six lengths, one and a-half length, and three lengths. Time.—3 min. 25 2-5th secs.

The totalisator paid on every Rs. 10, Rs. 207 on the winner.

THE MAIDEN PONY STAKES.

Captain's Purefay	1
Leethan's Poppy	2

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

SINGAPORE, Dec. 24.

The P. and Company's s. s. Peshawar (extra) arrived here, from Hong Kong, to-day.

COLOMBO, Dec. 24.

German mail steamer Friedrich der Grosse from Australia arrived.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, Dec. 23.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed steady. Surats dull.

Good Bhownuggar	2 23-32
The Manchester Market has been firm.	
2¾ per cent. Consols	112¼
3 percent. Rentes	103f.c.
3½ per cent. Sterling Loan	117
3½ per cent. Rupee Paper	61 3-4
Bar Silver	26 9-16

The Bank of England Returns for the week ending yesterday, show the following results:—Total Bullion, £30,800,000; Decrease £1,000,000; Public Deposits, £9,400,000; Increase, £1,400,000; Other Deposits, £37,200,000; Decrease, £1,500,000; Other Securities, £31,300,000; Increase, £1,200,000; Notes and Gold, £20,000,000; Decrease, £1,500,000. The Bank's Reserve is 43 per cent. of the Liabilities.

THE CITY MORTALITY.

THE Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending 6 a.m., yesterday, give the following results:—

Wards.	Plague. Attacks.	Plague. Deaths.	Deaths from all Causes
A Middle & Lower Colaba	4	0	5
B Mandvi, Chuckla, Umarkhadi, and Dongri	14	0	23
C Market, Dhobi Talao, Bhuleshwar, Khara Talao, and Khumbharwada	14a	1	17
D Khetwadi	1	0	4
E Mazagon, Tarwadi, 2nd Nagpada, Kamatipura, Tardeo, Byculla and 1st Nagpada	11	4	38
F Parel	0	0	6
G Worli	1	0	5
Water Division	0	0	0
Non-Resident and Unknown	0	0	0
Hospitals	0	20	31
Total	45	25	129
Total plague deaths to date	14,036	11,741	
Same date last year	75	65	276
Total mortality same date 1895			69

a Arrived from Jalgaud on the 15th Dec., per s. s. Shastri.

CHOLERA.

Attacks	2
Death	0

INFLUX AND EXODUS.

During the twenty-four hours ending 6 a.m., yesterday, the number of persons who left Bombay and entered the city by sea and land was as follows:—Arrivals by sea 1,078, and by land through Mahim and Sion Causeways 1,834, making a total of 2,912 persons. Departures by sea 622, and by land through Mahim and Sion Causeways 2,190, making a total of 2,812 persons.

MEDICAL OFFICERS' REPORTS.

These reports show that five cases of suspicious fever were detected in the Mandvie ward on Thursday, and three deaths due to plague were recorded. One case of plague was reported from the Dhobie Talao section, and two cases and three deaths were recorded in the Market section. A case of plague was removed from house No. 428, Grant Road, to the Hindu Fever Hospital. One plague case and one death due to the same disease were reported from the Mazagon District.

SEGREGATION CAMPS.

There were, yesterday, 1,773 persons detained in the Modikhana Segregation Camp; 422 in the Wari Bunder Camp; and 126 in the Narelwady Camp.

HOSPITAL RETURNS.

The number of patients remaining under treatment in the various plague hospitals, yesterday, was as follows:—Arthur Road, 195; Parel Government House, 45; Hindu Fever, 28; Grant Road, 19; Jain (Bhuleshwar), 17; Adamji Peerbhoy, 13; Julai, 8; Telugu, 7; Bhatwada, 3; Jain (Parel), 3; Nizampura, 3; Marwadi, 3; and Bhatia, 2.

PASSENGERS BY THE HOMEWARD MAIL.

THE P. and O. S. N. Co.'s s. s. Caledonia, Captain W. B. Andrews, will sail to-day for London and Brindisi, with the English Mail, and the following passengers:—

FOR LONDON.

Ackjian, Mr
Bamford, Mr R C
Barker, Mr P W
Bennett, Mr
Broadbent, Col
Berkley, Mr G
Babington, Lieut A H
Bryant, Mr H B
Crole, Hon Mr and Mrs
Dease, Mr P P
Dease, Mrs and Miss
Dashwood, Mr F A
Davidson, Mr and Mrs L and child
Gass, Mr H
Grasher, Mrs L De
Gray, Mr O
Hember, Mrs and 2 children
Hill, Revd J L
Jones, Mr J A
Logan, Mr T T
Linnell, Mr F
Legh, Capt F R
MacCartie, Surg-Major F F

Murray, Mrs C F
Marley, Mr A E
Macdonald, Surg-Major F
Mackinnon, Mrs B K
Neve, Dr A
O'Farrell, Mr and Mrs
Ormerod, Mr
Pigott, Mr and Mrs R E
Riches, Mr G O
Ransom, Mr H E
Rycroft, Major
Starrock, Hon J and Mrs
Speechley, Mr
Spence, Hon J K
Scott, Revd W and Mrs
Sultan Mahamed Khan Chandri
Taylor, Mrs J Lushington, and 2 children
Taylor, Mrs and child
Taylor, Mr J Lusington
Tozer, Mr J
Winn, Mr G A
Wye, Mr H W

The following passages have been engaged:—

Per s.s. Carthage, to Aden, 1st January, 1898. [illegible] Capt Shotwell.

Per s.s. Ganges, to Aden, 15th January, 1898. [illegible] Mrs Erskyne and child, and Mr [illegible]

TABLE TALK.

(BY WALTER BESANT.)

LONDON, Dec. 3.

THE School Board Elections are unsatisfactory in one respect at least. They seem to reveal a growing apathy in the subject. It is not, I believe, apathy as regards the educational question, but a weriness of elections, and of voting, and of everlasting appeals calling upon us to vote this way or that way. We have to send up representatives for the House of Commons, we have to elect members of the London County Council; of the London School Board; of the Vestry; there is too much voting. If, however, it were the voting only I think we should not mind it so much; it is the racket and the clatter of the whole business beforehand; too many people spread themselves over it, the reporter comes along with his picturesque account of the thing; there are the prophetic utterances; the leading articles take it up day after day; importance is given to a few knots of quite small people; there is the presentation of trifles as if they were things of the highest importance; there is the publication of the speeches with long letters explaining and defending and arraigning, all with the well-worn figures of rhetoric and of sarcasm. All these things turn many voters away from the whole business. It is, I believe, quite certain that this year an immense number of voters abstained altogether from recording their votes. This is, of course, greatly to be lamented. We ought to vote as a duty; I would fine any man who did not perform this duty—the fine to be levied in proportion to his rates and taxes—say £50 for the occupant of a good house, and £5 for the tenant of a £40 a year semi-detached. That would run up the vote with a magic effect. But I do not believe in apathy as regards the education of the country.

However, it is all over; the Progressists have a majority, and one hopes that we may progress—I know not in what direction. I remember a certain Frenchman, who was better at enunciating commonplace than any other man I have ever known. One remarkable utterance was the following. He would seize you by the button and would then, very slowly, deliver himself: "La Ci-vi-li-sa-ti-on, Monsieur, c'est la Progress." Wonderful when you come to think of it. So, Messieurs les Progressistes, one would remind you, "Le Progres, Messieurs, c'est la Ci-vi-li-sa-ti-on." In what direction? Might one suggest manners? I am sorry to say that the manners of the children are shocking. At the Church schools they are certainly taught manners—if only a thin veneer. As a nation we want manners; we have neither the sympathetic manner of the Irish, nor the dignified reserve of the Scot; if only our children could be taught manners. As to other matters we all have our little fads and theories. My own theory is that we should not attempt to teach too much in the Board Schools. I would have a ladder provided by which every clever lad should be enabled to climb up into a higher social position. But, if you please, we must not try to shove any boy up the ladder who is not qualified to climb. My next fad is that I should like to see all boys and girls leaving school with a distinct knowledge of their own duties as citizens; of their own history as freemen; of the meaning of the British Empire, and how it fell, and how it has to be defended. I hope that the lessons of this great year will not be thrown away on the members of the new Board—Progressives or Moderates, or what they please; so that they may lay themselves out to do for London what has never yet been attempted by any School Board—make the children patriots, proud of their country, knowing what freedom means, and ready to fight for their liberties to the death.

The Rev. Dr Paton, of Nottingham, is one of the most enterprising of men. He is a living instance of the great rule that big things are done by one man, and not by a committee, however "strong." The wise man who wants to bring about something big sits down in a corner while the committee occupy armchairs at a large table. The committee do the talking—some of them talk admirably—while the wise man in his corner, quite unseen, does the work. The paragraphs jump into the papers, no one knows how; leading articles appear in the editorial columns; long articles in the monthly magazines; everybody talks about the thing: the committee go on orating; and lo! the thing is done. At this moment I can see the Rev. Dr. Paton in the corner—quite quiet, and apparently doing nothing. Wait a little; wait just a month or two; and you will see a most remarkable new thing in the land; you will see the Board Schools lit up every evening and turned into clubs, associations, and unions for the recreation and the instruction (if they want to be instructed) of the working classes. You will see, in a word, every Board School in London converted into a small People's Palace. It will be a place where the people will hold musical evenings for themselves; where they will sit and read in comfort; where they will find a branch of the local Free Library; where will be the headquarters of the various Benefit, Thrift, and Friendly Societies; where there will be continuation classes for boys and girls; and classes for adults in Vocal Music, Hygiene, and other things. I do not suppose that Dr. Paton is going to convert every Public House into a howling wilderness; but he will administer a shrewd knock to that venerable institution.

I call it a venerable institution. In fact, I always entertain a friendly spirit towards the tavern on account of its historical associations. The history of the London citizens is full of the tavern—"tavern" is a much prettier word than "public house." Every street formerly had its tavern; the sign was almost always placed within, or upon a hoop. Why, I cannot tell, unless the hoop was an allusion to the casks within. A mere ale house proclaimed itself by a stake sticking out over the door with a "bush" tied on; in the south of France you may find the same sign for a wine shop. Thus there was "The Star on the Hoop," or the "Swan on the Hoop," or the "Cock on the Hoop." Everything was done at the tavern; if a couple of merchants undertook a partnership in a joint enterprise they concluded their agreement over a bottle; conspiracies were hatched in a tavern; it was in taverns that all the conspirators of history met. All the clubs were held in taverns; the London merchant, the London tradesman, the London craftsman spent all their evenings, until they gave up living within the walls, at their respective taverns. Then they were picturesque, with their large square courts and their galleries; the first theatre was the inn yard. Adventures were constantly happening in taverns; novelists have made great play with the tavern. A London tavern is, in my mind, a place where everybody was friendly. The landlord welcomed his guest to the best food that one could find anywhere; he kept a cellar full of noble beer and excellent wine; he introduced his guest in the evening to a company who sat together in amity and improving discourse. There were the bagmen—call them rather by their older name of "riders;" they formed the principal part of the company, but how original was their conversation! Look into Pickwick and see what we have missed by the dropping of the bagman out of society. Besides the bagman, there was the strolling actor, the man who was come up to town on business, the country attorney, keen and sharp, the reverend Divine, as thirsty as anybody; the shopkeeper anxious to air his political views—oh! we have been born much too late. What is a mere public house—a thing of yesterday, garish with its gilt and paint—compared with tavern of the last century?

To return to Dr. Paton. He has understood one great fact in the present conditions. It is a fact which I have myself ventured to expound on one or two occasions. Formerly, the working man began the day at half-past five, six, or half-past six; he ended it at eight or half-past eight. Therefore he had only time, after his work, to take some supper and go to bed. There were no half holidays and no bank holidays. Life meant six-sevenths work and one-seventh play. What does it mean now? The working man begins at seven and ends at five or six. He has a Saturday half holiday, he has a bank holiday, he has extra days at Easter and Christmas. Every evening, from five or six till midnight, is his own to do what he likes with. Think of that! We have absolutely given to the working classes a long, free evening to do what they please with. In other words, if I had an intelligent lad of fifteen or so before me at this moment I should address him, with a finger admonitory: "Boy, you are now going to begin the work of your life and the play of your life. Your work is probably determined for you. How about your play? It will be a good deal more than half as long as your work; the latter will take you ten hours; the play will take six or seven. Now six hours every evening is thirty-six hours a week, or 1872 hours every year; that means actually seventy-eight days of twenty-four hours each, without any sleep in them, or allowing eight hours a day for sleep it means 117 whole days. This means, if you go on to sixty-five, actually sixteen long years! What are you going to do with this long time? How will you occupy these sixteen years?" This is a very serious question. How are the working people going to occupy themselves during that large slice out of their lives? Shall we leave them to loaf? If we do, the future of the working man promises to be very miserable indeed. Or shall we encourage them to study; learn accomplishments; make their own amusements of an orderly kind? And now you understand why I contemplate the Rev. Dr. Paton in his corner, his fingers full of strings, with a singular curiosity and interest.

Is laughter on the decay? Sir Lewis Morris thinks that it is; he quotes the case of an unaccustomed explosion of laughter in one of his clubs, and its effects upon members and upon the servants—an effect of [illegible] consternation. We must distinguish [illegible] question laughter is an unusual [illegible] ill-bred servants might well be [illegible] into some [illegible] corner of the world. Outside it there are, it is true, some sepulchral clubs; there are also vast caravanserais where none of the members know each other; but there are clubs where stories are told and men laugh as much as they have ever laughed. There are also theatres where the Laughing Audience displays the same variety of face as 150 years ago; there are Music Halls where the comic person throws the audience into fits; there are books the reading of which is interrupted by peals of laughter. There are stories which are calculated to make a judge, as well as a cat, laugh, and no doubt they do. I take it that Judges, Bishops, Dignified Clergy, Head Masters, Cabinet Ministers, and young poets who take themselves seriously, go into their own rooms in order to laugh, and only return when they have had it out. Where laughter has decayed is not among club men, or theatregoers, or the frequenters of Music Halls. It is among that class of people who used to spend their earnings at the taverns. Every tavern, as we have just said, then had its circle, who came every evening for three or four hours to talk and to drink. Once a week they had a club night. They were the residents of the City of London—the merchants, professional men, and tradesmen. They met, talked, sang, told stories—the same old songs, the same old stories—and laughed. They have now gone into the suburbs, and they spend their dull evenings at home. These are the class of people with whom laughter has decayed. But with their sons it has not decayed; and as to their daughters, the enlivenment and the brightening of their lives has caused the growth and extension of laughter such as was formerly unknown.

Oct. 28, 1901, will be the one thousandth anniversary of the death of King Alfred. The place of his burial has long since been laid in ruins, and no one knows exactly where his tomb was placed. It was somewhere in the abbey of Hyde, of which hardly a trace remains. It is rather remarkably that we have so few tombs remaining of our Saxon and Danish Kings—Edward the Confessor's shrine, all that is left of it, survives in Westminster; the first Harold lies somewhere under the grass of St. Clement Danes; the second Harold somewhere under the grass at Waltham Abbey; King Canute, I believe, and one or two more repose in Winchester itself; but where are all the others? However, the dust of Alfred belongs to Winchester, which, if any, was his capital, and it is the city of Winchester which is bestirring itself to get up a monument of some kind in memory of the great King. I do not believe there will be the least difficulty in carrying out this good work provided the monument proposed be worthy of the King. For instance, Winchester was the ancient capital of Wessex, if not of all England. Would it be possible to form a kind of Valhalla with the statues or the busts of the Kings and Queens and great men who have made this venerable city, this diocese, this county, illustrious? I invite my readers to assist me in making out a list of Worthies of Hampshire and Dorset—say of Wessex. If they will do so, I will send the list to the Mayor of Winchester as a first contribution of material, for me it will be a labour of love, because I belong myself, by birth, to the Diocese of Winchester. For instance (I have no history by me and am quoting from recollection), there are St. Swithin, Ethelwold, Bishops Wykeham, Beaufort, and Waynflete, King Canute, Edmund Ironside, William Rufus, Henry III., Bishop Wilberforce, Stephen Gardiner, and a hundred others connected with the city. Izaak Walton died at Winchester; Jane Austen is, I think buried in the cathedral. But the city and the cathedral are crammed full of historical associations. And if we take in the places round Winchester, there is the name of Keble. There is also the name—long to remain, I hope, among the living—of the lady who has done more for the women of her time than any other writer in raising the standard of the gentle life, and in filling the hearts of our English maidens with lofty and holy thoughts. Miss Charlotte Yonge must have a place—let her be placed very near King Alfred—in the Valhalla of Winchester. I say that the Mayor, who is promoting this great and worthy object, is sure to succeed if he makes his memorial worthy of the name of Alfred. I hope that he will also, while reserving for his own city the management of the memorial, make it a national object, supported by a national as well as a local committee. But, oh! Mr. Mayor, if you can, a Valhalla—of Wessex first and of the city and diocese next, and then of England, so far as England and English worthies are connected with the ancient city of Winchester.

CYCLING AT HOME.

(FROM A WHEELING CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, Dec. 3.

QUITE the most interesting event in cycling club circles of late has been the decision of the North Road Cycling Club to withdraw from affiliation to the National Cyclists' Union. It may be remembered that the Union has just proclaimed that none of its licenced riders may take part in any road race. The North Road Club, as a holder of Club road races, had either therefore to secede or abandon its road events. It has seceded. What the upshot will be requires a very level-headed prophet to foretell, but a very considerable feeling of discontent has been growing lately on other grounds besides road-racing, and already a few of the prominent clubs are considering the feasibility of joining the revolt. The Union is strong, and its influence is widespread, but it does not govern the whole earth, nor can it control all clubs; but whether the North Road C. C. will stand alone, go to the wall or be the nucleus of a new movement, remains to be seen, and there are as many opinions as there are parties, at present.

An interesting function took place on Monday in the shape of the second motor-car parade in London. Last November the birth of the motor-car movement was heralded with a run from London to Brighton, in awful weather, when most of the cars were either of foreign make or in the hands of foreigners. This year all the cars, and most of the motor-cycles, were of English build, and a great improvement was noticeable in the get-up and the behaviour of the carriages. As yet, however, the motor-car is in its "bone-shaker" stage, and the crude creaks of to-day will be superseded rapidly as the industry develops. About sixty cars went to Sheen House, about eight miles from London, near Richmond, and some motor-cycle time trials took place, but man-made records were not approached. The behaviour of the carriages, many of which carried four or five passengers, was entirely satisfactory, though of course speeds ruled slow, as the parade was almost wholly in congested traffic.

During the Stanley Show the Lady Cyclist Association held their annual meeting, and so far relaxed their rule of exclusive femininity as to allow themselves to listen patiently to a lecture on cycling by Mr. J. K. Starley, who comes of the pioneer family of the cycling industry, and is a frequent contributor to the magazines on cycling topics. If anything he treated this body of emancipated women rather too much in the manner of school girls, and gave them lessons on old familiar lines, as if addressing recruits instead of veterans. Boldly he championed the skirt. In our assembly of rationalists, although admitting that at high speed it was a hindrance. Asked by a pressing enquirer, he had to admit that ten miles an hour was about the pace at which a skirt began to be a hindrance, and when a still more awkward question was fired at him, why men did not wear skirts, he really had no satisfactory reply.

Cycling, among the other offences laid to its charge, is accused of causing a decrease in the practice of church-going. One somewhat worldly parson has suggested that cyclists should be taxed, for the benefit of the clergy; but a more practical suggestion has been made that cycle accommodation should be provided in churchyards. Many theatres, shops, music-halls, provide their patrons with cycle storage, so why should not places of worship as well as pleasure or profit?

Besides offences, cycling is always being accused of bringing on new diseases. Last and best of them all is "cyclist's nose," which like "cyclist's eye," is said to be caused by rapid riding through impure air, dust-laden, and dirty. Well, we won't give up our cycling for that. We will blow our noses a little oftener and wink the eye when an attack of road-grit begins.

Robbery of cycles continues wholesale. A scamp has got six months hard labour at Lincoln for thefts of machines on five occasions, and here in London an exceptionally daring crime of this nature has been perpetrated. A large shop in Oxford Street, which is a well-thronged London thoroughfare, was denuded of several hundreds of pounds worth of bicycles one evening, by some burglarious persons who forced an entrance at the back. As it was on the eve of the National show at the Crystal Palace, the firm had some of its Show machines among the missing goods.

Messrs. Hobart, Bird & Co., Ltd., of Coventry, are making one of their "Hobart" safeties for the Bishop of that town. His Lordship is going to have the machine fitted with the popular Dunlop tyres, and the good people of the "City of three spires" will shortly see their superal leader covering his diocese on a two wheeler.

The first motor-car races to be run in England were decided at Sheen House, on Nov. 29th. Charles Jarrot won the 2 mile motor bicycle race, and F. T. Bidlake the 1 mile motor tricycle race. Both these machines were fitted with Dunlop tyres.

PROFESSOR HAFFKINE'S PROPHYLACTIC.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—The efficiency of Professor Haffkine's prophylactic treatment is proved beyond question; yet the utter indifference with which Government look upon it is surprising. Neither directly nor indirectly have they given any encouragement to inoculation for the plague, and it is not surprising, therefore, that people are getting apathethic about it, believing that Government have no faith in its efficacy. So far as I am aware, a person who has undergone the full inoculation treatment is not exempt from quarantine in any of the places where quarantine is enforced on all arrivals, with the solitary exception in Thana. Allow me, through your columns, to ask Government a straight question. Do they or do they not, believe in the efficacy of Professor Haffkine's prophylactic? If they do, then it is time that some active steps were taken to emphasize their belief. If they do not, then it is high time to give the Professor [illegible]

LIFE AND MANNERS IN HYDERABAD.

(BY A RECENT VISITOR.)

BOMBAY, Dec. 24.

WHEN I was schoolboy I knew Hyderabad or the Nizam's Dominions only by the maps. And in those crude days I thought of this great city as I did of Timbuctoo, in the wilds of Africa. But now that I have seen it as it is, with its fertile fields, the impressiveness of its scenery, the thick jungles of timber, the numerous granite peaks and rocks, some of which seem to be piled up by giant hands, the ruins of old forts, palaces and shrines, the net-work of its railways, and the numerous other material resources on the one hand, and on the other its schools, colleges, hospitals, libraries, clubs, gymkhanas, race course, cricket and polo grounds, I have come to regard Hyderabad as the very centre of Native State civilisation. It is an immense tract of country covering over 82,698 square miles and containing over eleven and a-half millions of people of different nationalities. Each from the smallest to the largest and from the poorest to the most wealthy carry with them one or more dangerous weapon.

In few places in India is there such a conglomeration of races, creeds, and colours as in the Nizam's capital. Here may be seen the Rohilla, the Pathan, the Kaph, the Arab, the Sidhi, the Turk, the Bokharats, the Persians, the Armenians, the Chinese, the Parsees, the Goanese, the Bengalis, the Madrasis, the Maharattas, the Guzerathis, the Kutchis, and in fact all classes and conditions of peoples of Asia, together with a fair percentage of those of different European nationalities. It goes without saying that all these have been attracted by the wealth and importance of this once famous city of "Fortune." I have just alluded to the universal practice of carrying deadly weapons. It is rather surprising that the Indian Arms Act has not been introduced here in some modified form, at least as a safeguard, seeing that there are such diversities of races inspired by irreconcilable religious opinions, side by side with those whose hereditary taint of lawlessness and ferocity is almost proverbial. The passing of such an Act would be hailed with joy, especially by the members of the Criminal Investigation Department, as they have often to encounter formidable resistance from the budmashes. There is no question that the present Kotwal has in a great measure purged the city of its criminal classes and given security to life and property formerly unknown. Another noteworthy feature is the presence of countless groups of impudent professional beggars, who deliberately shower a ceaseless torrent of abuse and vituperation if you dare pass them by without giving alms. Probably nowhere else in India are so many able-bodied vagabonds to be seen.

The Hyderabadis and especially the official classes attire themselves in costly Shervanis of more or less splendour in marvellous combinations of changeable silks, satins, scarlet, cashmere and embroidered velvet with gold lace galore. The Shervanis somewhat resemble in shape the frock coat or the buttoned-up coat usually worn by the clergy, with stylish colours, cuffs, and neckties. Their peculiarly shaped head-dress somewhat resembling the kind of turbans worn by the Surat Bunnias or the Bohras compete in brilliancy with the mass of flowers obtained in their parks and gardens. When a Hyderabadi is dressed in his distinctive costume, he looks a great deal smarter than the bare-headed Bengali Baboos and others whom we are accustomed to meet elsewhere with a senseless variety of head-dresses.

Nor does the contrast consist merely in the Hyderabadi's outward appearance, for as we follow him in his home life we find him exceedingly entertaining. To begin with he is a cosmopolitan by nature. At his table may be seen Europeans, Parsees, and even Brahmins of Calcutta, Madras, or Bombay, each doing ample justice to the sumptuous provisions so lavishly provided by the good host. I confess I was not a little surprised at first to notice the carnivorous proclivities of the "twice born," who will go even to the strong drink alone until the doctor prescribed its discontinuance. When he is in Hyderabad, he conveniently shakes off ordinary restraints and ceases to be fettered by superstition and caste distinction. It seems to me that Mr. Rattiram was not far wrong when he so authoritatively declared in his recent University Lectures, that there are many interpolations in the sacred book of the Hindus and that the many social restrictions imposed upon the present generations were wholly unknown in Vedic periods. Despite the transition stage attained by the Hyderabadi his wife is still secluded in strict purdah with all the rigours of the zenana system. She does not, and in fact she cannot, openly participate in the joys and pleasures of the outside world, nor does she know or even see what is going on in the very next apartments of her dwelling house. The poor ladies, with some exceptions of course, spend their time in gossiping and in relating mythical stories. The wealthier classes are now and again entertained to mock marriages of dolls when large sums of money are expended. Regular processions are marched out lined by hired infantry-men and camel-mounted batteries, elephant riders, and a grand display of fire-works, with all the usual glare and crash of brass bands playing oriental march. Instead of indulging in such insensate frivolities the Hyderabadis will be acting wisely if they relax the rigour of the purdah and give their wives some elementary education, with liberal hints on house-keeping. What invaluable helpmates would they then prove to their enlightened husbands. In the present condition those knaves of the Hyderabad servants reap a rich harvest at the expense of their masters.

The position and prestige of the Hyderabadi noblemen, those especially who are related to the Nizam, is very high, and they practically enjoy unlimited powers, like those of the English barons in feudal times.

His Excellency Nawab Shums-ul-Umra, Amir-i-Kabir, Sir Khorshed-Jah-Bahadur, K.C.I.E., is the acknowledged chief of the nobles. His strong personality combined with other good qualifications of head and heart pre-eminently qualify him to take the lead among survivors of the [illegible] family. He is readily accessible and prompt and punctual in the fulfilment of his promises and engagements. And best of all, he is an exceptionally good paymaster. In this respect it is conceded on all hands that Sir Khorshed-Jah-Bahadur is anxious that no shadow of suspicion should tarnish his reputation for fairness and equity. The majority of the Hyderabad folks are inaccessible and are slow paymasters. They willingly or unwillingly depend a great deal too much upon their surroundings, and naturally enough the middlemen take good care not to spoil their own harvest at the expense of their masters. But Sir Khorshed-Jah never gives quarters to such scamps. It is said that his son, Nawab Zaffer-Jang Bahadur, a fine looking young nobleman, educated in English, aids him in controlling and directing the administration of his jagirs with becoming prudence and great economy. Both the father and son have a disposition to cultivate the society of reliable and cultured men, both European and Native. Sir Khorshed-Jah-Bahadur, is an extensive traveller, and his knowledge of eventful places and incidents is marvelous. An interesting account of his travels written by himself will soon be issued.

His Excellency Nawab Sir Vikar-ul-Umra, Bahadur, the present Minister, is the younger brother of Sir Khorshed-Jah-Bahadur. By taste and training he is a most refined nobleman, extremely kind, and of generous disposition. Among his jagirs Gungurwaram, now known as Vikarabad, was originally a deserted village, but is now a beautiful sanitarium, frequented by convalescents and holiday-seekers. The grand scenery and the fresh mountain air with pure water obtained from beneath the iron ore springs puts even the most dyspeptic into a good humour and speedily restores vanished appetites. Confirmed fever patients also return with the fever completely shaken out of their system. The exhilarating benefits of Vikarabad was first brought to light by Syad Mahmood, formerly a trusted officer in the joint family and now A.-D.-C. to Nawab Sir Khorshed-Jah-Bahadur.

His Excellency Nawab Sir Asman Jah-Bahadur, the ex-Minister, is the half-brother of the two noblemen named above, and is some five months older than Sir Khorshed-Jah-Bahadur. It is said that he is the richest nobleman in the city. He owns extensive jagirs and other landed properties and parks, yielding an enormous income.

Maharaja Khishanparshad takes precedence among the Hindu noblemen. He is said to be hard working and painstaking. The next in rank is Nawab Fukr-ul-Mulk, Bahadur, the holder of the Judicial and Educational Daftar. He leads an easy quiet life with a group of charming children clustering around him, all of whom are more or less educated in English, while some of them are now in Europe prosecuting their studies.

Maharajas Shivraj Bahadur and his brother, Raja Murli-Manohar, are well-known and well liked for their courteous and kindly dispositions. The latter, in addition to his onerous duties as Accountant-General and other attached offices, takes a keen and practical interest in the advancement of social and educational movements. One of his sons, Raja Inderkarun, a promising young man is an under-graduate of the Madras University.

Besides these there are several other Rajas and Nawabs, some by right of birth and others of recent creations. Titles in Hyderabad are usually bestowed on individually by favoritism and appear to be as a cheap as the current coin. Very recently the name of a Parsee gentleman was added in the long list of Nawabs. In Hyderabad the Parsees muster pretty strongly. Many of them fill lucrative posts, and have made Hyderabad the land of their adoption. As a rule, the Nizam's officials are very highly paid. His highness, with a view to improve matters in the near future, sends annually batches of promising young men to Europe to be duly qualified for public service. Already several of the earlier students have returned and are honourably employed in the state. Amongst them Masihuddin Sady, Chief Judge of the Small Causes Court, is gaining great and deserved popularity. Although Hyderabad is under Mahomadan rule, the Hindus greatly preponderate. And somehow the Marwadis, like the Parsees, have also made Hyderabad their home. Most of them have not visited their native country for years together. They marry and are given in marriage and remain in their adopted land. There is also a good number of the Eurasian community, the offsprings of officers in the Military and Civil services of the state. Many of them fill high positions with credit and possess valuable landed properties. I must observe in passing that they are more self-respecting than their brethren elsewhere, most of whom with less reason look to Government for cheap and comfortable home accomodations which they could afford for themselves with more thrift and less extravagance. When we notice the disposition here and there to undermine the blissfulness of religion, it is highly satisfactory to find so many church spires scattered through this great and ancient city of mosques and tombs. It certainly speaks greatly for the spirit of toleration which charactrise the minds of the Deccani Mahomedans, those especially of Hyderabad proper.

Dr. Lawrie, a physician of conspicuous ability and skill, has laid the city under a lasting debt of gratitude for producing a capable staff of medical men and women. Nawab Lukman-ul-Dowla, the Household Physician, Surgeon to H. H. the Nizam, is another officer who has gained a great popularity and golden opinions from all sorts of people.

THERE was no rain in Bengal during the week ending October 20. The general prospects of the crops continue favourable, except, as previously reported, in the flooded tracts of Chittagong. The harvesting of winter rice is everywhere progressing. All other crops, sugarcane, poppy and indigo are doing well. Locusts appeared in parts of the 24-Pergunnahs, Jessore, and Khoolna and did slight damage to the mustard crop and in the 24-Pergunnahs to the cereals also. There was a fall in the price of new rice in some districts. No cattle-disease is reported [illegible] Dacca, and the [illegible] subdivision of Bhagulpore. The [illegible] except at [illegible]

ALMODORO'S CUPID.

THE MAGIC RING AND THE MYSTIC LOVER

THRILLS AND HEART-THROBS.

IT is necessary at Christmas time to have a short story, or at least something "creepy." So here it is from the *Pall Mall Magazine*:—

On a broad hillside overlooking the Neckar, and commanding a distant view of Heidelberg, stands the Villa Venedig—a name that, fixed thus amid scenes where local and historical traditions cluster, sounds strange to this day in German ears.

It has borne this singular appellation since the close of the 17th century, when Ritter von Racoczy, coming home to end his days in peace, so called it for the sake of the brilliant years he had lived in Venice, whereof rumour, even after this lapse of time, still has somewhat to say.

A famous drinker in his prime was this Racoczy, that could empty a gallon; and a heavy-handed fighter that cared neither for petronels nor musquets, but trusted in a steel mace of his mail-clad ancestors wherewith he had crushed the skulls of a dozen foemen; and ever, in youth as in age, whether campaigning or feasting, a lover of beautiful women. A handsome man, as may be seen from his portrait in velvet doublet and frilled hose, with a blue gauze scarf knotted at the shoulder, where perhaps the lady love of that particular hour had bound it, thus lending colour to the popular belief that feminine hearts proved no less frail than the iron-bound heads of his enemies. It has even been whispered that Kunigunde, wife of the then Elector, whose last days were tinged with so mysterious and remorseful a melancholy, had not lived beyond the reach of her knightly neighbour's fascination. He looks from the wooden panel with soft bright eyes, and face shaven and grizzling hair, and with right hand resting upon the mace he wielded to such good purpose. A middle-aged man in countenance and bearing, and altogether youthful for one who talks of coming home to die; but 'tis even there we read the devil's blessing of his friend and instructor Almodoro, the Venetian astrologer, who had set upon him as a gift the seal of maturity. Nor is it difficult to divine in the self-mastery of that intently thoughtful face the influence of Italian training. The bluff Teuton knights of old rarely look down upon us from their sanguinary centuries with eyes and lips so significant of dissimulation and patient pondering. And thus it comes that the traditions concerning Racoczy's life lose nothing of their flavour as years go by, and that the honest folk are not yet weary of hearing of his sinister adventures and of the spell which kept him outwardly unchanged till one Good Friday night, the accursed night whereon Peter betrayed the Master, his heart, which was steeped in guile, shrivelled when, without a word of warning, the devil appeared and pointing claimed it for his own.

Merely to look at such a portrait and learn no more of the original than the whisperings of hearsay, is little better than reading the title of a closed volume. But our interest in Racoczy proceeds as much from a recital of the circumstances of his sojourn in Venice, attributed to the alchemist Almodoro, which is preserved in the library of the Villa Venedig, as from the likeness of him which in popular estimation is also the necromancer's handiwork. The book is a manuscript, leather bound and silver clasped, wherein, set forth in obscure and blurred Latin sentences, is a summary of strange sights and adventures, together with notes of solitary meditation upon the everlasting problem why joy so soon grows old, while sorrow is always young.

The Villa Venedig, whereof some small part is ancient and much has been restored, stands in a flower garden with an arbour and sun-dial and great coloured crystal globes to rejoice the German fancy with reflections of the eddying Neckar and of the sunshine and

SHADE OF THE WHISPERING TREES.

The house is a quaint mixture of columns, carved windows, dingy red-tiled roofs and irregular gables, with here and there a growth of vines against its weather-stained walls, that in summer bear their tiny blossoms to the chimney-tops. In the hall are a carved fireplace, a dozen stiff-backed chairs, two or three rusty-looking antique tables, covered with *bibelots* and books, a settle, luxuriously piled with gaudy cushions, an *etagere* filled with Saxe, and a grandfather's clock that tinkles "Du, du, liegst mir am Hertzen" when the hours strike. The floor is laid with the original marble, and above the chimney hangs the master's portrait, the eyes whereof follow the beholder, move as he may. On the wall are souvenirs of Racoczy, such as a prodigiously thick pair of jack-boots, with one silver spur; a long-barrelled Turkish pistol, more or less damaged; a horse's curb-bit with dangling fragments of leather; an hour-glass, the crystal broken and the sands run out; and a great leather bottle, which in campaigning days hung at his saddle-bow.

It was here, to the seclusion of this exquisite retreat, that Ritter von Racoczy came in 1689 from Venice, in time to see Heidelberg Castle in its final splendour, and to witness its burning from this hill-top. Here he died, some time later; and here in 1894 lived the widow of his last male descendant, with her daughter Doris, a girl of eighteen. At Villa Venedig their days had been little troubled. French and German governesses came and went, the Countess made occasional visits to a neighbouring city, where Doris had learned music and dancing and at intervals some relative, an angular aunt or somebody's nephew, or a spectacled [illegible] wiseacre, came to enliven their solitude. One of these visits was now approaching, though [illegible] in marked contrast to their usual guests.

Hector von Falckenstein a distant cousin aged four-and-twenty, had just taken his degree at the neighbouring university, and had reached [illegible] time of life when the spiritual eye catches its first glimpse of an ideal—something we fain would shape ourselves to be, something intimately present, yet immeasurably far away. He had graduated with honour, had invariably paid his debts, was fond of athletics and travel, loved sentimental musings, and bore upon his face two faint white duelling scars. Altogether a model student, and one who might go far and fare well provided he selected the right sort of study, practical girl for a wife, and banished from his thoughts some romantic conception that was utterly perverting him of a maiden descended from legendary heroes, possessed with the glamour of mediæval days, understanding their mysticism and cherishing the idyllic grace of their chivalry with its shining steel and crimson banners, all of which is this happy age of ours is little better than the fruitless fig-tree.

Such was the individual whom the Countess had invited for a week, also bidding Pastor Wendelin, that the young man might have some one to talk and smoke with at the late evening hours if, like the ordinary bursche, he was given to lengthy disquisitions upon *wissenschaftliche* themes. He was received with warm welcome, and they presently went to dinner in German fashion at two o'clock. While doing justice to the good cheer, Hector puzzled himself to think of what it was that Doris, with her indefinable trace of sadness, reminded him: suddenly, with native sentimental imagining, he remembered that last Easter, footing it through the Thuringer Wold, a lilac bush stood by the way half in sunshine half in shade, touching the air with its faint, vague sweetness—and that was Doris. After coffee in the arbour, the pastor and Hector lighted their pipes and strolled down a shady promenade called the Philosophers Walk, at the end of which, through a cut between the branches, is a view of the Neckarthal, with its forests and hill-sides, where in springtime, when the amaranths are blooming, there floats across the fields and woodlands an inspiration that seems a refrain from that imagined land where amaranths are always in bloom—the land where we shall bid farewell only at the twilight of the longest summer day. But the young man's thoughts were

ALREADY OF DORIS,

and possibly the last object in the world a student wishes to gaze upon is his university town, even though it rest beneath the luminous shadow of Heidelberg Castle. He said to himself that any one might at first glance have pronounced Doris a pretty girl: she had fine features, a good figure, and the soft hazel eyes of old Racoczy. Moreover, she had an engaging way of listening, which always flatters the masculine heart; but more than all, he felt singularly interested by a vague perception that the girl was possessed by some subtle sorrow of no ordinary degree, whose burden she perhaps bore alone. So strong became the youths sympathetic feeling that he could no longer refrain from questioning his companion, and that with startling abruptness.

"Is Fraulein Doris betrothed?" he inquired suddenly, interrupting a learned disquisition.

"No," replied the pastor, turning quickly and stopping short. "What should make you suppose so?" he added, in evident astonishment.

"Oh, only that, begging your pardon, an absurd fancy recalled something wild and desperate in the impression she made upon me as of some such unhappiness as an ill-suited betrothal."

The pastor glanced furtively right and left, drew his arm through Hector's and led him back along the Philosophers Walk. "Betrothed, no," he murmured impressively, "but bewitched, yes. It is all that unblessed picture of Racoczy." Look at it carefully when we return to the house—glance at it from time to time, as often as you pass, and tell me to-morrow if you see nothing. I do not believe a day passes without some slight movement of the face. It is not imagination—you will see for yourself that the lips in the picture wince, as well they may, for 'tis then Racoczy in hell sees Satan making ready the hot irons. In that man's wicked life happened many tragic events. The story of such deeds become lost, thank God, else who would wish to live! But can you, young man, deem such a presence, even in a picture, a happy or beneficent influence over a maidens life?

But if the story be lost, objected the student meditatively, what mischief can it do?—or what harm is there in a portrait, even though it be that of an evil man?

Wendelin shook his grey head mistrustfully, and for the first time in years suffered his pipe to go out. "Because," he answered, "we are all unconsciously under the influence of objects by which we are habitually surrounded. Too much of that man's hateful career is remembered not to dwell upon such parts of it as are stamped upon his features. It is known that from a soldier, the man of strife and orgie, he became a pupil of such as teach forbidden arts and a companion of goblins and incubi. He died . . . and who shall say what may have been his ghastly awakening in another world, after contact with the lurid phantasms with which he had filled his days and nights in this!"

"You seem severe, master," answered the student, smiling and eyeing Wendelin curiously. "The Countess told me no such gruesome things, but on the contrary said that when the last hour of his life had come, he begged that a handful of fresh pansies be brought, and lay passing them through his fingers and pressing them to his lips, as through his fainting soul derived refreshment from their contact."

The good man was not, however, to be diverted from his judgment. "Look at him," he whispered under his breath when they stood presently in the hall: "the old campaigners portrait is the typical embodiment of evil passions and of the accursed arts of his later days. Will you expect me to believe that such a boding presence exerts no witchery upon the promise of a young life that is daily brought within its contamination?

"But how know you that the young life is even conscious of the subtle influence, or so much as cares who or what her sinister-visaged ancestor may have been!"

[illegible]

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[illegible] the shadow which the more report [illegible] has cast upon Doris.

"You believe, then, in haunted houses and *revenants*!" queried Hector, half banteringly.

"I cannot doubt their mystical pressure," answered Wendelin gravely; "neither can you. More than this," added the priest, wiping his brow, "let me say that Racoczy—or the figure in the picture—has acquired the same devilish ascendency twice and thrice before. The most authentic instance was that of Countess Clorinda, fifty years ago, which is vouched for by her own declaration that the picture was gaining a control so vast and more than human over her, that at length, seizing the horror of this dead Racoczy's love, she fled from the villa and never more set foot within it."

"And what," queried Hector, as he scanned the details of the picture, "is that faint mark upon the Ritters hand?—can it be a ring upon his finger?"

"That," answered the priest, pursing up his lips "is a charm, a gift of the wizard Almodoro—nothing less than the ring wherewith a Doge of Venice wedded the Adriatic, goodness knows by what incantation recovered from the sea, and which embodied, as such things commonly do, the enchanter's familiar spirit. The ring is indicated as you observe, very vaguely; but the Countess will tell you it was Racoczy's talisman, wherein lay the secret of all his cabala. Since it disappeared at his death, let us hope took the mischievous thing with him to purgatory." And Wendelin took of his spectacles and laughed till his fat sideshook.

When Hector went to his room late that evening he fell into a reverie upon the ring mysteriously recovered from the depths of the Adriatic and endowed with supernatural attributes, the face of the portrait that moved, and the honest pastor's evident terror of old Racoczy, whether on wood or in the infernal regions. As one moment the tale seemed fit for the nursery; at the next it assumed a character of weird and suggestive import. It is evident that some lives are wholly spent in the pursuit of an intangible ideal, as though in very deed, some semblance of a vanished existence might return to beguile and pervert the reality of this life. He remembered how subject he had found himself to the emotions which a study of the lives of masterful men and women inspires: how one measures their ambitions and comprehends their doubts and disappointments; how we share their triumphs or are touched by their despair, moved by the intensity of their hate or love, and often enduringly moulded by the power and pathos of their fame. If such could be the effect of an historical narrative, who, he mused, could say there is no animation in the genius of bygone days? or by what tape and footrule shall we limit the influence which might be exercised upon us were we brought directly within the active operation of some such overmastering force?

He drew on a smoking-jacket and slippers, for with such a medley filling his brain sleep could be coaxed only with the soothing aid of one more pipe of tobacco. The pipe—*donnerwetter*!—had been left downstairs, but he could fetch it thence in a moment. He opened his door and stepped noiselessly into the corridor. To his right a balcony overlooked the hall, at his left was a casement through which he beheld in the glimmering moonlight a dim outline of cypresses and hemlocks where strange fantastic shadows lurk. The clock downstairs played its little old-time tune, whose words recurred to Hector with new and startling meaning:—

"Und, und, wenn in die Ferne,
Mir, mir, sein Bild erscheint,
Dann, dann, wünsch Ich so gerne,
Dass uns die Liebe vereint!"

He became suddenly aware of a presence, and an overpowering consciousness smote him that some one besides himself was astir. He glided noiselessly to the balcony and peered over. There in the shimmering moonlight stood Doris, motionless, turned with outstretched arms towards the portrait of her ancestor, with rapt, uplifted face, spellbound and expectant. And as the last cadence of the clock chime lapsed into its regular ticking, Hector beheld a transformation in the painting which surpassed all the ghost stories he had ever known. The figure became detached from its wooden panel, and, floating down like a film, rested upon the floor and enfolded Doris

IN THE EMBRACE OF ITS PHANTOM ARMS.

For several seconds Hector remained watching them himself awestruck, chilled with a nameless terror, longing to shout, to stamp his feet, to curse the spectre—but in vain. He could no more move than he could doubt that what he beheld was the alchemist's pupil, ethereal as a myth, yet manifest as sin itself. He understood now, as never before, that there may be a supernatural meeting between some misty impersonation of a vanished century and the type of fresh and beautiful life. In silence, as it had descended, the phantom, after that intense sad passionate salutation which the girl had come at the stroke of midnight to receive, melted from her and became fixed as before upon the panel.

Hector passed the remainder of that eventful night in feverish agitation. A hundred queries surged through his mind, and he awoke at length from a fitful doze with a sense of unutterable joy at seeing the sunshine peep through his lattice. When he had eaten the customary frugal breakfast he resolved to seek Wendelin and reveal his fateful discovery. But the pastor had been summoned to a bed-ridden cripple and would not be back till dinner, so he set himself to while away the morning as patiently as might be, and spend a couple of hours walking through the forest.

It was ten o'clock when he descended to the terrace and crossed the garden. The first person he met was Doris, radiantly happy, with a dainty basket on her arm, returning from her daily talk with the gardener who came to receive orders—such a quantity of vegetables to the cook, a dozen bunches of hothouse grapes for the table, a posy of flowers to the farmer's daughter who was ill. She nodded good-morning as blithely as though *revenants* were unknown, brushed back her strawberry-blonde hair and said, "Come with me, cousin, and see the dairy. I have been to the kitchen, to the pantry, to the garden—my housekeeping is done: if you like we will try some duets presently—I have the latest English waltz, 'Bicycles built for two'; and after dinner mamma intends to take you a drive up the valley"—and the girl looked at him with sparkling eyes, and laughed till she showed her white teeth.

The student, for all his metaphysics, was confounded. Was what he had seen a mere hallucination, or was it to be believed that a woman alive to-day could hold amorous communing with a man who disappeared from earth two hundred years ago! Could it be that our boasted philosophy has no profounder import than the whisper of a breaking wave? He was amazed at the girl's unconcern, and ended by wondering if she had grown so habituated to such escapades that dissimulation came naturally. It was on his lips to cry, "I surprised your midnight meeting!" but he walked beside her tongue-tied and abashed, till as they crossed the lawn he awoke as from a nightmare to the delight of the early summer in the thrilling song of a bird. And he pointed out to her the grove on the other side of the river where, last October, he had gone with some Mosselblumchen-loving Burschen, attended by a Waldhorn quartet, and waking the reverberant woods with their mirth—the German woods where, in summer, the lengthening twilight fills the forest with silhouettes of sprites and beckoning elves.

When at length, some hours later, he found an opportunity to unbosom himself to Wendelin that worthy listened to his recital with unfeigned astonishment and alarm. But he presently declared himself immeasurably reassured by the girl's honest and care-free bearing that morning, and explained her seeming participation in what Hector insisted he had seen by an hypothesis of his own. After inquiring minutely into every circumstance connected with the apparition—its duration, whether both figures were translucent, and whether any sound beyond the ticking of the clock had been audible, the wise man delivered himself as follows:—

"My dear young friend, three days ago you and I were strangers, and here we are discussing an intimate event in the life of one whom I have watched from her childhood, and whose future is often in my thoughts. I know her to be a pure-minded girl, who could not commit the unmaidenly action you have erroneously attributed to her. Physically she may have been present, although not consciously so; which brings me back to the matters we discussed yesterday, and I can only say again that there is no telling to what morbid vagaries her prepossessions may have led. It is no news to learn that she is in some way dominated by that accursed picture, but what you beheld was an unconscious aspiration after an imagined type, and nothing more."

Hector listened incredulously, and remained for some moments plunged in abstraction. "Is there no way," he queried at length, "in which we can break Racoczy's power for mischief?"

"There are two ways," replied Wendelin, rubbing his hand reflectively over his short grey hair, and rightly thinking within himself that his companion did not relish the prospect of

A RENEWAL OF THE SPECTRAL KISSING SCENE.

"We must either possess ourselves of the ring which is his talisman, or else, at his next descent from the panel, we must intercept, his return to it, which will leave him in a pretty predicament. The first expedient being apparently impossible, we must address ourselves heart and soul to the second."

"You mean that we must watch to-night from some dark corner?"

"Precisely; and the instant the phantom leaves the wall I engage to prevent its return by a process which is infallible, and consequently needs no explanation. But this much is certain, that in the morning the picture will be an empty background!"

They were a merry party that evening at supper; and a substantial Teutonic supper it was—cold meats, Russian salad, devilled kidneys, rabbit pie and pickled goose, washed down with either beer or Rudesheimer, and followed by custards, stewed preserves and savoury relishes tempered by small glasses of Kirschwasser or Cognac. After the repast they made music and told stories, and Doris showed her last sketches of the Neckarthal and the Rheingau, till Hector thought her more interesting than any of the nymphs that haunt those favoured localities, and became furiously jealous of Racoczy.

When half-past eleven struck, lights had been extinguished, and the moonbeams slanting through heraldic arms inlaid upon the window-panes, cast their opalescent tints upon the hall floor. Hector and Pastor Wendelin, hidden in a recess, sat side by side. The student had armed himself with a stout cudgel, and the priest had placed at his own feet some object of doubtful form concerning which he was obstinately reticent. Both watchers felt nervous at the prospect of the coming encounter. So redoubtable a trooper in the flesh might prove a tartar in the spirit, and whoever has experienced the mental will-o'-the-wisps that bewilder and perplex us, as though some demon dogged our steps, may have known the fatalities and sudden takings off and unaccountable unlodgings of the brain that can proceed only from some sinister interposition. At a quarter before midnight all was silent save for the ticking clock; midnight struck, and the musical chimes played its brief refrain . . . a quarter past twelve . . . half-past twelve . . . still nothing. Until presently Hector became aware of

AN IMPERATIVE PRESENCE STANDING CLOSE BESIDE HIM

and pointing to a shining mirage which unfolded its lengthening vista. Before him opened the street of a mediæval town at midday, with quaint, peaked roofs and eaves and painted signs and busy groups, and through the midst a marching colum of *Lanzknechte* in parti-coloured doublets and breeches, some helmeted and others wearing caps and plumes. Above the serried ranks moped pikes and musquetoons and silken battle-flags, bright in the streaming sunshine; and at the head rode Racoczy resplendent in crimson cape and glittering armour and in the market-place a group of handsome girls who to the beholders imagination, seemed the frail ones whom Racoczy in all his eventful life had allured and won, stood statuesquely motionless looking with passionate wistfulness at the stately figure which for remembrance sake, gallantly kissed its gloved hand to them as the long files passed on and the blare of their martial music died away.

The scene changed to a lofty room whose walls were lined with books and astronomical charts and physical retorts; and at a table sat Racoczy, and before him in gown and berretta stood a swarthy ascetic, whom the student surmised to be Almodoro; and amid the odorous smoke of burning philtres and with gestures of tremendous incantation the alchemist bestowed upon his pupil a ring whose possession should irresistibly attract and compel love in all ages and in every clime, so long as gentle hearts beat responsive to the magic of persuasive words.

Again the vision faded; and now Hector beheld, as on the previous night, the image of Doris standing alone and Racoczy gliding towards her. From his finger the spectre drew a ring, and the agonised youth divined that if it were placed upon the hand of the girl whose soul an ideal had fascinated she would never free herself from its enchantment. He was conscious of touching a secret that, if completely grasped, might reveal why so many shocks and griefs enter into the substance of our daily bread. He comprehended that, even as the spirits of those departed whom we have intimately known may return to whisper in our reveries, so there is a mystical power which exerts upon our lives an impetus for good or evil; and knew as though it had been thundered in his ear, that whoever placed that potent ring upon the hand of Doris would guide her life.

But in that instant the spectre turned and confronted Hector as one lover in a passionate quarrel turns upon his rival. The outstretched hand grasped no weapon, yet the young man knew that for him its fateful touch was death. The phantom eyed him with the menace of a supreme malignity, as it drew furtively near, when at last Hector broke from the spell which held him, and with blood surging through his brain sprang gasping to his feet. "The Ring! The Ring!" he shouted frantically, striving to clutch the figure, which at the words melted into empty air, leaving before him only Pastor Wendelin stumbling over the mysterious object at his feet, which was neither more nor less than a bowl of holy water. "What is it" cried the priest, as his companion

SPRANG FORWARD AND MADLY DASHED HIS CUDGEL

against the portrait of Racoczy. They lighted a candle, and perceived that they were too late to prevent the spectre's return to the panel, for there he was before them on its polished surface austere, reposeful, self-contained. But an extraordinary thing had happened. When Hectors cudgel, struck the picture it dislodged an object imperfectly fastened at the back of the wood, whence it fell to his feet. It was an antique ring which he snatched and thrust into his pocket, for there was no time now for examination since with their scufflings and outcries they had aroused the household.

The next morning Hector and Wendelin bitterly reproached each other with having fallen asleep in presence of the enemy. The one had seen a vision which the other pooh-poohed as a silly dream, and Hector declared that if the priest had seen nothing it must be because he was napping at his post. From this they passed to a minute and eager scrutiny of the ring. It was of Greek workmanship, a hoop of gold encircling an onyx intaglio, representing a sitting and smiling cupid playfully crushing in his hand a cluster of those perennial roses wherewith lovers wreathe their delightful pangs. Was this the long-lost ring referred to in Almodoro's narrative of journeyings and *séances*—the ring of many loves that upon his authority had fixed itself upon the hand of Galatea, had been given by Cleopatra to Marc Antony had been exchanged the night before Philippi as a token of faith between Brutus and Cassius, had been produced at the trial of a sinning Vestal as the conclusive proof of her guilt, and had been cast by Doge Morosini into the Adriatic at the yearly espousal of Venice with the sea?

Who had secreted it in its odd hiding-place unless Racoczy himself when he felt the end both of love and life? There was much discussion upon this and other puzzling doubts; nor was their interest lessened on observing that the mark or ring on Racoczy's hand in the painting had disappeared. Hector's suggestion that it might have been but a discoloration which the blow of his cudgel effaced, was rejected by the learned Wendelin, to whom it was clear that Racoczy by that lucky stroke had been deprived of his talisman, wherein lay his familiar spirit; and he urged his companion to take it away with him from Villa Venedig and cast it once more to the bottom of the sea.

"It is not mine to keep, still less to destroy," answered the student. "I must immediately deliver it to the Countess."

To this the priest urged strenuous objections, declaring the ring to be a curse upon the house, which it was now in their power to remove, and hinting that if restored to the phantom there would be no saying to what dangerous degree the unhallowed wooing of Doris might be carried, till the young man's purpose was shaken and he agreed to postpone its restitution.

And so, when three days later he took his leave in the ceremonious fashion of the German politeness, with hearty handshakings and farewells and good wishes, the ring was fastened out of sight upon his watchchain, where it was to remain many months. He was about to enter upon the customary *Wanderjahr* of German students, in the course whereof it became remarkable how often his thoughts reverted to Villa Venedig and how frequently a remembrance of Doris flitted before him. Whithersoever he went the mystery of the ring preoccupied him, accosting his reveries by day and lurking in his dreams at night. So haunted were his journeyings by the fervour of the imagery it suggested, that dawn and twilight breathed the same message of tremendous tidings of joy and pathos, and always with the same eloquent silence. He had not been back many days at his own home before these

MAGNETIC ATTRACTIONS IMPELLED

him to Villa Venedig—only for the day. His arrival was unexpected, for he meant merely to restore the ring—to Doris. It happened to be a beautiful afternoon, and he walked with her to the edge of the terrace and down the Philosophers' Walk—to look at the view. There is an arbour covered with grape-vines at the end of that dim promenade, from which one beholds the glistening river and the distant hills bathed in yellow sunshine as radiant as their golden wine. And shall young eyes watch the sunset fade upon the crests of distant hills—those distant hills where careers change and thoughtful destiny may meet—and not think of immortality—or of how little immortality would mean without love!

There are words which, once spoken, ring in the memory to the end of life and may perhaps be written upon the heart in heaven. For a diffident man, expressing himself with no small embarrassment, Hector suddenly became possessed of a supreme inspiration whereby on a lovers lips, the dross of silver speech was rendered perfect and carried such conviction to the listening Doris as to seem purer even than the gold of silence. This to, may have some magic of the ring, which he placed upon her hand unresisted.

A month later, in October, at the season of reddening leaves, when through the orchards and the cornfields the poetry of autumn fills the earth with an incantation not spoken, but which all the world can hear, Hector and Doris were married.

There was feasting that day at Villa Venedig, and music and dancing on the terrace; and although many came and ate and drank as though they feared never to eat or drink again, the good cheer was not exhausted.

General von Katzengeschrei the Countess's uncle and a veteran of Sedan gave the bride away, and proposed the health and the bridegroom's in sonorous phrases each as involved as a sailors knot and none shorter than St. Basils homilies. Then Pastor Wendelin, who had an amiable mania for seeing people married, and who was so overjoyed that the tears stood in his eyes, returned thanks for them; and when he resumed his seat the guests cheered, and, emptying their glasses, called upon the bridegroom to rise, were it only to say a word.

Doubtless Hector too might have made a cheery speech, for he felt happy enough to say many pleasant things, had not his gaze rested at that critical moment upon the portrait of Racoczy. It struck him with a guilty feeling that he was sitting in the old Ritters hall, his feet upon the pavement the others mailed steps had trodden, having stolen his talisman and now about to bear away thence the girl who was that ancient soldier's last descendant, and in whose fate her ancestor had shown so ardent an interest. The face in the picture gave no sign under his scrutiny, but gazed fixedly upon him as one who looks wistfully from spheres and across memories whose import is only to be guessed. Hector rose, but his voice faltered in that moment of emotion; and while all saw that he looked steadfastly at the phantom portrait, only those nearest caught the whispered words, "God rest his soul!"

WILLIAM WALDORF ASTOR.

PITY the sorrows of a poor Queen-cyclist! The Amsterdam correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* says that Queen Wilhelmina of Holland recently paid a visit to the Court of Vienna, accompanied by her mother, and, while there, became passionately fond of cycling. The young Queen Wilhelmina returned to her home in Holland, taking with her, as a precious souvenir, a cycle which comes as near perfection as one can well conceive. After she had amused herself by whirling up and down the walks of the Royal garden for half-an-hour, her mother, the Queen-regent, was seized with harrowing scruples as to the propriety of the thing. A Cabinet Minister or his wife might, of course, "bike" to their heart's content without provoking censure or comment; even a duchess might mount a bicycle or guide a tandem without any loss of dignity. But a Queen! There is no authentic precedent for such a radical innovation, or, if there be, it is worthless. The Queen-Regent made matters as clear as she could to her royal daughter, but the wilful young maiden declared she could not see it. What was to be done? The matter was at once referred to the Privy Council, all the members of which were summoned in hot haste and asked to consider and solve the question whether a Queen of Holland could "bike" without losing the halo of Majesty. The Privy Council deliberated very carefully and discussed the matter most exhaustively, coming to the unwelcome conclusion that biking and reigning were incompatible—or words to that effect. "For the precedents cited in favour of the contrary opinion," this august body declared, "are not to the point. In no other case was the person who used the bicycle as a mode of locomotion so precious to her subjects, in no other instance was the life and health of the Royal bicyclist so necessary to the welfare of such a large number of subjects as in this." "Therefore we humbly implore your gracious Majesty," said the President, "not to expose your precious life to this danger, how slight soever it may seem." The young Queen pouted, but obeyed, and, as a sort of cold comfort, accepted a present of a Shetland pony.

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NEWS OF THE DAY.

THEIR Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Elgin will entertain a party at luncheon at Buxar on January 22nd, the day of the eclipse.

IT is likely that the usual concession of three months' leave will be given to the officers who have been engaged in the present frontier expeditions.

THE marriage of Shaikh Sahib of Mongrol will be celebrated with the daughter of the Hon'ble Nawab Sahib Sir Amirudin Ahmad Khan, K. C. I. E., Chief of Lahore, on the 13th proximo. Many guests have been invited, and preparations are being made by the Chief of Mongrol on a grand scale to celebrate the festivities.

IT has been definitely settled, says the Lahore paper, that Sir George White, the Commander-in-Chief, leaves India about the middle of February to assume the appointment of Quartermaster-General to the Forces at home. An ad-interim Chief will, in such an event, be appointed pending the return of Sir William Lockhart from the Frontier.

THE following changes in the British Infantry reliefs have been ordered: Royal Highlanders to move from Umballa to Sitapur and Benares instead of Lucknow: the Shropshire Light Infantry from Sitapur and Benares to Poona: the Durham Light Infantry from Poona to Bombay, Deesa, Ahmedabad, and Deolali; the Royal Irish Regiment from Rawalpindi hereafter to Mhow; the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry hereafter to return to Peshawar from field service.

AS Sir Power Palmer has been appointed to command the 2nd Division, the post of Commandant of the Line of Communications has fallen vacant. It will not, however, be filled, each General of division managing his own transport and supply with Section Commandants and Assistants. This will be a simple matter as the base of operations in each case is Peshawar. The Gwalior and Jeypore transport trains will continue to be used; while camels can be employed with advantage on the Khyber and Bazar routes.

THE fire which destroyed the Darjiling cutchery in January last is responsible, among other things, for a delay in the presentation of the report of the Conservator of Forests, whose records perished in the flames. Mr. Wild has nothing very startling to tell us this year. The administration of the Forest Department in Bengal was, as usual, successful. It is interesting to note that severe fire seasons do not follow each other, and that good years often alternate with bad. Thus fires in the year 1893-94 caused a great deal of damage to forests; 1895-95 was more favourable, 1895-96 was disastrous, and again 1896 97 was favourable. The fact that the early months of 1897 were wet, except in the hills, is referred to as the probable cause.

THE Rev. Dr. Murdoch, of the Christian Literature Society, has issued as an appeal to the Indian Universities for the recognition of Hygiene as a compulsory subject in their Matriculation examinations. The reverend doctor bases his plea on what he terms the "frightful mortality in India" and the ignorance of the masses and their crude ideas with regard to the causes of disease. The neglect of the Universities to include Hygiene in the Matriculation courses he attributes to the fact that the teaching of the subject in the ordinary schools offers an excuse that it is unnecessary in the Matriculation course.

AN indignant correspondent in Assam draws our attention to what appears on the face of it to be most arbitrary conduct on the part of the Rivers Steam Navigation Company. He ordered some powder the other day from a Calcutta firm, and the powder was duly made up and forwarded to the Navigation Company for despatch. The consignors were, however, amazed to receive from the Company a note saying that gunpowder and cartridges were not taken for despatch to Assam. They replied pointing out that ammunition had always been sent in that way and enquiring when the rule had come into force. The answer was "From 13th instant, the order from the agent, R. S. N. Co." The present is the snipe season, and it would, therefore, interest many in Assam to know for what reason the agent has decided to deprive them of ammunition from the 13th of December.

ON the Peshawar side troops were sent out on the 21st from Jamrud to make a mule road to the heights which command the entrance to the Khyber. The working parties were not interfered with, no enemy being seen, though 200 had, according to native reports, gathered in the pass on the previous day. The force on the Peshawar frontier has been refitting during the past few days. The Sussex Regiment have now replaced the Devonshires in the 1st Brigade; while the Duke of Cornwall's and the Yorkshire Light Infantry from Rawalpindi has arrived at Peshawar to join the 3rd and 4th Brigades respectively.

AN ultimatum has been sent to the Bunerwals calling upon them to comply with the Government terms by a fixed date. These terms include a money fine and the surrender of breechloaders. As we pointed out last August, the tribesmen of Buner showed an extreme spirit of hostility during the attack on the Malakand, and again at Landakai when Sir Bindon Blood's force was advancing into Upper Swat. If prompt submission is not made a force can be moved into Buner with the greatest ease: for the Malakand Field Force is well found and equipped every way. This action against Buner not having been undertaken originally in August, as would have been the wisest course to follow, has of necessity had to be delayed while the Mohmands, Orakzai, Afridi, Chamkanni, and Utman Khel were being dealt with. Now that Sir William Lockhart's two divisions are within hail of Peshawar, and the above tribes have submitted, with the exception of the more hostile Afridi clans, the expedition against the Bunerwals can be quietly proceeded with if the Bunerwals refuse to comply with terms imposed upon them. By next week we shall know if the tribes mean to fight or to submit completely as the Utman Khel have done.

THE capital canal system of Bengal is still proving a source of steadily increasing revenue to the local government. During the past official year the receipts from both major and minor works amounted to over Rs. 25,63,000 and the working expenses to Rs. 19,37,000, the net revenue being Rs. 6,26,000 against Rs. 2,47,000 and Rs. 1,38,000 respectively in the two preceding years. The very large increase in revenue during 1896-97 is apparently due to several causes—increased navigation, a larger amount of land under canal cultivation, and the collection of large sums in the shape of outstanding arrears. There was some falling off in the revenue from the tolls levied on the important Nadia river works, and this result is attributed to the early closure of the route, which was mainly caused by the low floods in the Ganges during the rains. However, whatever the returns from the Nadia rivers, the other works classed under the head of canals brought in a most handsome revenue. The Government has no cause to complain, and thanks have been conveyed to the following gentlemen of the Public Works Department who have been engaged in canal work:—Messrs. Buckley and Horn, Superintending Engineers, and Inglis, Barlow, Butler, Sairight, and D. Mello, Executive Engineers.

WRITING in the middle of October the *Pioneer's* correspondent in Japan predicted that when the Japanese Diet met in December the Ministry would be overthrown. The Cabinet, he said, had become thoroughly unpopular by its mismanagement of the finances at home, which had depressed trade and raised prices, while it had bungled abroad both in its administration of the Formosa conquest and in its policy towards Russia and Corea. The projected annexation of Hawaii by the United States has also come as a sore blow to the pride of Japan, whose people form the largest element in the population of the islands, and although the Ministry cannot fairly be blamed for this, they naturally bear the odium of every misfortune. The adoption of the gold standard and the demonetisation of silver within the last few weeks have forced up the price of commodities still further in Japan and occasioned much distress. This is likely to be the last blow to the falling fortunes of the Ministry, and their resignation is probably a matter of days. A change of Government in Japan at the present time must necessarily add a new complication to the very ravelled state of affairs in the Far East.

THE two ironclads which have been delayed on the stocks owing to the non-delivery at the proper time of certain castings, on account of the engineering strike, have now begun to make progress again and will soon be launched. Their places will forthwith be taken by the keel-plates of two new battleships to be named the Implacable and Formidable, which, with a sister-ship, the Irresistible, also being built in the dockyards, are improved Majestics, and consequently will be the most powerful vessels in the Navy until the next advance appears—and only equalled by the newest Japanese armourclads. On the same displacement as the Majestic, 14,900 tons, they will have superior guns and armour and 1½ knots better speed with a few inches less draught. The fourth new battleship promised this year and ordered by contract some time ago is to be of the smaller Canopus class and is named Vengeance. None of the four great vessels of the new armoured cruiser type provided for in the supplementary naval estimate has yet been laid down, but the design is being worked out and a commencement will be made before the end of the financial year. Less than a quarter of a million was intended to be spent on these up to the end of next March, and even this sum may be more than can be managed in consequence of the strike and the delay in supplying material. But once the designs are passed and a start is made the construction can go on rapidly.

CHRISTMAS CRACKERS.

ONCE upon a time a Scotsman and a Welshman had fallen out about some matter, and the son of Cambria would settle the quarrel in no other way than by a stand-up fight.

The Scotsman endeavoured to dissuade his adversary from such a course, but all to no purpose.

"Verra weel," said Sandy, "if it is to be a fecht, I'm no a coward; but, after the custom of my countrymen, before engaging in mortal combat, I must engage in prayer."

Kneeling down by the wayside, he prayed after this fashion: "O, Lord, forgive me for all those whom I have slain, and for him I am about to slay," &c.

During these devotions the Welshman began to think that discretion was the better part of valour. He took to his heels, and by the time our northern friend rose from his knees, his opponent was far out of sight.

A clergyman who was very fond of spices carried a bottle of tabasco sauce for use when on his travels. One day, while dining in a New York hotel, a Yankee entered, and taking a seat beside our friend, proceeded to help himself to the good things around.

At once the tabasco bottle caught his eye, and he was preparing to explore its interior when the cleric interposed. "Excuse me, sir, that is my private bottle; but, pray, help yourself."

The stranger thanked him, and assisted himself to a good helping. When he had tasted it once or twice, he turned to the clergyman and said:

"I say, stranger, air yew a parson?"

"Yes."

"Do you believe in hell fire, eternal punishment, and all that sort o' thing?"

"Certainly," replied the clergyman.

"Wall, I guess yew air the first parson I've met that carried samples about with him."

Professor Aytoun, Edinburgh, was a very bashful lover. He could not muster up courage to ask the father's consent.

At last he got his sweetheart to do so. The father, much amused, wrote his reply, pinned it to his daughter's back, and asked her to return.

When the Professor looked at the reply, he read:—"With the author's compliments."

A poor old Irishman, with an old and battered cornet, was making night hideous one evening in a quiet Edinburgh square.

A smart young "guardian of the peace" stepped up to him, and in very peremptory tone said:—"Come, come, my man! You must stop that, or accompany me."

"Wid all the pleasure in loife, sor," replied Pat. "What are ye goin' to sing?"

"Our city," says a Philadelphia friend, "has some divines whose sermons are noted for their length rather than for their depth. One of them Dr Bull, happening to pass the Sabbath in a small town in New Jersey, was invited to preach. He accepted the invitation, and spoke for an hour and a half from the text, 'Remember Lot's Wife.' It is said that the church bell had to be rung at the conclusion of the sermon to rouse the hearers. "Last month the Doctor was in the same town, and was invited to preach. He announced his text, 'Remember Lot's Wife.' A staid old Jersey farmer sitting half way down the middle aisle was observed picking up his hat, &c., and as the injunction, 'Remember Lot's Wife,' was a second time sounded in his ears, he rose, and in a voice distinctly audible throughout the church, exclaimed, 'Haven't forgot her since you were here last time,' and immediately executed a rapid movement toward the door."

Board School Teacher—"The lesson to-day is on the ant. Does any one know what an ant is?"

Smart Boy—"A kin' o' auld fashiont wumman!"

A lady was visiting an old body who was dying from a malignant disease. On being asked how she was to-day, she replied:—

"Oh, weel, ye ken the doctor canna dae ony mair for me, for ma trouble's a' internal; but he's gi'en me something to elevate the pain." (A true anecdote.)

Teacher—"Now, children, I will give you three words—boys, bees, and bears—and I want you to compose a sentence which will include all three words."

Small Boy—"I have it."

Teacher—"John M'Carthy, you may give us your sentence."

John M'Carthy—"Boys bees bear, when they go in swimming."

"Yes, my dear children," said the visitor at Sunday School, lowering his voice to hushed and solemn tones, "this brave missionary, this saintly man of God I have been telling you about, was captured by the cannibals and killed. And now, little ones, can any of you tell me where he was after that?"

Chorus—"Yes, ma'am."

"Well, this dear little boy may tell me."

Dear Little Boy—"In the soup!"

The other morning there emerged from a city office a young man with a big bag. This he entrusted to a youngster who offered his services, and the two then set out for the station. They had not gone far before the boy complained of the weight, more, I suspect, from a desire to secure an increased fee than from any real reason.

Come on, replied the man curtly. Let's have more work and fewer remarks."

Nothing more transpired till the station was reached, and, after placing the bag in a spot indicated the boy was rewarded with twopence.

Seeing him eyeing this in a manner which spoke for itself, the man asked him if he was dissatisfied.

"Not exactly," replied the youngster, "only I opes if ever I carry a bag for yer again, there'll be more coppers and less bag."

Artist (triumphantly):—"What do you think of my picture of a peasant girl, Miss Featherbrain?" Miss Featherbrain (gushingly):—"Just splendid! What a lovely hat she has on! Is she going to the theatre?" Artist (despondingly):—"That's not a new hat; she's carrying home hay."

Irate Patron:—"You advertise to cure consumption, don't you?" Doctor Quack:—"Yes, sir; I never fail when my instructions are followed." Irate Person:—"My son took your medicine for a year, and died an hour after the last dose." Doctor Quack:—"My instructions were not followed. I told him to take it two years."

A Clergyman famous for his begging abilities was once catechising a Sunday-school. When comparing himself—the pastor of a church—to a shepherd, and his congregation to the sheep, he put the following question to the children:—"What does the shepherd do for the sheep?" To the amusement of the audience, a small boy in the front row piped out, "Shears them."

The country clergyman was nailing a refractory creeper to a piece of trellis work near his front gate, when he noticed that a small boy stopped and watched him with great attention. "Well, my young friend," he said, pleased to see the interest he excited, "are you looking out for a hint or two on gardening?" "No," said the youth, "I be waitin' to see what a parson do say when he hammers his thumb."

Commercial:—"Look here, landlord, I thought you said your eggs were all fresh laid by our own hens! Smell that and look at it. Why, what should be the white is positively green!" Irish Landlord (persuasively):—"Shure, it's all right, sor. That's the natural colour av it. It's an Oirsh hin Oi brought over mesilf that lays thim iggs wid the grane whites an' she'd lay thim wid grane yolks, too, if she could bagorra!"

A Successful American who has returned from Klondike says—"Why, it costs a dollar to get shaved up there. I went into that country four years ago and got clear out of the track of civilisation. You can imagine what I looked like when I got back to Dawson City. The first place I hunted up was a barber's shop. I had a healthy beard on my face and was glad to get shaved. As I went out I saw the barbers carefully gather up the beard, and I learned next day that they had refined the hair and secured about 13 dol. worth of fine gold dust. You see, it blows through the air up there, and—say, its time to have a drink.

The Bishop of Worcester once had occasion to travel through Banbury by rail. Being desirous to test and at the same time to encourage the far-famed industry of that town, and the train having stopped for a short time at the station, he beckoned to a small boy standing near at hand, and inquired the price of the celebrated cakes. "Threepence each," said the boy. The Bishop thereupon handed him sixpence, and desired him to bring one to him, adding—"And with the other threepence you may buy one for yourself. The boy shortly returned, complacently munching his Banbury, and handing the threepence in coppers to the Bishop, exclaimed "There was only one left, gov'nor."

It is an open question whether honour exists among thieves or not, but you will occasionally find traces of it among horse-dealers. Not long ago, after a good deal of squabbling a very suspicious-looking animal changed hands. "Now, Bill," said the purchaser, "you an' me's had more than one deal before now, and you can't say as ever I deceived you. I've paid for the 'oss; tell me his faults." Bill pocketed the money and scratched his head in a thoughtful sort of way. "You're right, lad," he said at length. "You never took me in, an' I'd scorne to deceive you. I would describe that 'oss in a minute, only I simply can't do it." "Can't do it? And why?" "Why?" echoed Bill. Becos the law won't allow me to use the necessary language. You've bought him. Take him away and—here's the best tip I can give you—shoot him!"

Sir John Irwin was a favourite with George III., who once observed to him: "They tell me Sir John, that you love a glass of wine."

"Those," replied Irwin, "who so informed your Majesty have done me a great injustice; they should have said a bottle."

Pope was a little round shouldered, contemptible-looking man; Lord Glasseye was a dressy, by Jove-don't-cher-know, lisping dude. The two met at a large party in Bath. Milord, surrounded by a bevy of admiring belles, was holding forth on the difficulties which beset writers in correctly punctuating their letters, when Pope joined the group.

"Do you know, my Lord, what a mark of interrogation is?" he asked.

Lord Glasseye turned slowly round, and, putting up his eye-glass, surveyed his questioner from head to foot. "Yes, Mr Pope. It is—aw—a little, crooked thing that asks a question!"

Last New Year John, the beadle, who had been enjoying himself "not wisely, but too well," met the minister.

"Well, John," said the minister, "I see you are getting home."

"Whiles," replied John, cautiously. Then he staggered to the side of the road, and fell on a "bing" of stones.

"Ah! John, I see you have broken the pledge again."

"I've dune war than that," hiccupped John, fumbling in his pocket. "I've broken the bottle."

Lawyer Strange (to his wife):—"When I die you must have nothing but the inscription, 'Here lies an honest lawyer,' put on my tombstone." Mrs Strange—"But people won't know who you are." Lawyer Strange—"Oh, yes, they will; they will say 'Why, that's Strange.'"

In the midst of a stormy discussion, a gentleman rose to settle the matter in dispute.

Waving his hand majestically, he began:—"Gentleman, all I want is common-sense."

"Exactly," interrupted another, "that is precisely what you do want."

"Oi must confess," said Mr. Rafferty, "that it ain't clear to me what's meant by arbithration."

"It is a great t'ing," replied Mr. Dolan. "Oi'll explain it till yes. S'pose two people hev a quar'l——"

"Which is li'ble to happen any day."

"They call in three or four other people to take a hand and ixpriss an opinion, an' the result is absolute peace or a general free fight, ayther of which is to be desired."

Boy (reading)—"And as she sailed down the river——"

Teacher—"Why are ships called she?"

Boy (precociously alive to the responsibilities of his sex)—"Because they need men to manage them."

SHE:—"Take care, Alfred! That isn't the remedy for seasickness. Don't you see the bottle is marked 'poison'?" He:—"That's the one I want."

MISTRESS OF THE HOUSE:—"My good man, did you ever take a bath?" Tramp.—"No, mum. I never took anything bigger'n a silver teapot."

Making an inanimate object speak.
Making a tart reply.

What is majesty stripped of its externals?
It is a jest.

What is the tree that grows nearest the sea?
The beech.

Why is a nail fast in the wall like an old man?
Because it is in-firm.

How many insects does it take to make a landlord?
Ten-ants.

Why is a chemist an awkward person to bandy words with?
Because he has always a retort handy.

Why should one never tell a man to take a back seat?
Because he is sure to take af-front.

Where is the theatre spoken of in the Bible?
Where Joseph was taken from the family circles and cast into the pit.

If a wife objected to her husbands moustache how could she tell him so without offending him?
By setting her face against it.

What is the difference between men and horses?
As soon as a man gets broke he is worthless, whereas when a horse gets broke he is worth more than he was before.

A little boy, on being asked what a zebra was, replied that it was a donkey with a football shirt on.

Teacher (to pupils)—Who was Moses?

Truthful Tommy, at the back end of the class, signals eagerly.

Teacher—Well?

T. T.—He was the man wot told the brickmakers to go on strike when Pharaoh wanted to sweat 'em.

With the foregoing we may couple the Infant Sunday scholar who said that Moses' mother "Smacked him for three months," that being his interpretation of the statement that Moses mother had been "hiding" him for the period named.

A TALK WITH ALPHONSE DAUDET.

A CONTEMPORARY recently gave the following account of the chat with Daudet whose obituary notice we published on Saturday:—

Monsieur Alphonse Daudet led a strangely chequered and eventful life. Styled with some truth the French Dickens, his works, which are full of poignant yet poetical realism, are not only popular in his own country, but made him well known in both Europe and America.

Born at Nimes he had a sad childhood. For two years he was usher at a school in Alais, and went through the drudgery of that humble calling at an age when other boys are generally at school. Even in those early days he had intense literary aspirations, and when only 17 years of age he and his brother Ernest went to Paris in order to gain a livelihood by their pens.

After passing through some bitter experiences, during which time the two lads lived on something like £2, 10s. a month, Alphonse brought out a volume of poetry, Les Amoureuses, which immediately gained for him a certain reputation, and led to his employment on several newspapers. From that time forward he wrote constantly for the *Figaro*, composing between whiles short plays, and writing the admirable articles which were afterwards published in a collected form as "Comptes de Mon Moulin."

For five years he was private secretary to the Duc de Morny, the half-brother of Napoleon III.; and it was during this period of his life that he moved in the brilliant society afterwards described with such minute fidelity and scathing satire in "Kings in Exile" and "Le Nabab."

During the last three or four years Mons. Daudet has suffered much from persistent ill-health. He now dictates most of his work to his wife and two secretaries. When receiving visitors he places himself with his back to the light, and thus naught but the huge outline of the poet novelist's full head is seen by his guests.

I suppose, M. Daudet, "that you are now resting from the task of writing your two last plays and the story which has just come out?"

"On the contrary, I am working hard at a new book, which I laid aside in order to write 'Rose et Ninett,' the little study of social life to which you refer. The modern problem dealing with the position of children whose parents have been divorced has long haunted me. I could not throw the thought aside, and felt that I must write myself out."

"Then I suppose, M. Daudet, that you are entirely against divorce?"

I could see that a pained expression came over the sensitive face half concealed in shadow.

"It is a most difficult question; surely people's first duty is to those whom they have brought into the world, and who after all did not ask to come into existence. Think of the effect produced on children by the knowledge (which is quite inevitable) that their parents have separated because one of the two was unfaithful to the other. What a revolution in all their thoughts. All life changes; everything they have been taught to believe seems untrue."

"I wish, M. Daudet, to ask you a question which I am sure you are more competent to answer than most writers of the present day. What do you think of literature as a profession?"

"I do not think anything of literature as a profession," answered Mons. Daudet slowly. "I speak from bitter experience, for I have lived by my pen all my life. After all there is nothing so weary as brain work, and it is practically impossible to keep up the sort of strain undergone by every literary man for many years without breaking down. Of course if the would-be author has a small independence, and is thus sure of not actually starving, there is no real reason why he should not give himself up to letters altogether."

"Then, Mons. Daudet, you often find yourself in the position of literary father confessor to the would-be dramatist and author?"

"I should be afraid to say how many young men consult me on these matters in the course of a year—till lately I generally read or at least glanced over manuscripts sent to me; but, of course, the writers, although they did me the honour of asking my advice, rarely took the trouble of following it. I will give you two absolutely true instances which have occurred during the last ten years. Two professors, both married men, with children, and each teaching in one of our great Lycees or public schools, came to me with manuscripts in their hands. To both, after careful perusal of their work, I gave the same answer, 'You will never succeed in literature, for you have no originality or literary power, although your language is pure and your style correct; therefore, if only for the sake of those dependent on you, give up all thoughts of making letters your profession, and remain steadfast to the honourable career in which you are beginning to make a certain mark among your fellows.' One of these professors had, unfortunately, already had an article accepted and inserted in a magazine; he disregarded my advice, threw up his post, and leaped into the great literary ocean where so many come to certain disaster. Six weeks ago I was implored by some charitable people of my acquaintance to give a small donation to an unhappy brother pen, who, together with his unfortunate wife and children, was literally dying of starvation. Upon investigation I discovered that this unfortunate man and my professor were one and the same person! As for the other man who had come at the same time, and who had followed my advice, he always visits me about Christmas time, to bring his good wishes for the coming year, and to thank me with a grateful heart for having dealt faithfully by him. He has now an important scholastic position in the University of Paris, and is earning an income of 30,000 francs a year."

"And do you believe in journalism as a stepping stone to literature?"

"I cannot say that I do; although, of course, I have been a journalist in my time, and some of the writing in our newspapers is undoubtedly literature in its highest form. The young man who begins writting in order to support himself invariably drops into newspaper work. Nothing is so well paid—I speak from the day-to-day and pot-boiling point of view—but as the work has to be done extremely quickly, the style insensibly alters, and from being literature becomes journalism."

"And do you approve, Mons. Daudet, of women writing?"

"How should I not, when my own wife has always written and when much that is best in my literary work is owing to her influence and suggestion. A woman can so often say things that we rougher natures cannot express in just language.

And then Mons. Alphonse Daudet tells in a few eloquent words all that his wife, the beautiful and charming Julia Daudet, who has signed some of the truest and most subtle descriptions of French child life ever written, has been to him.

"I often think of first meeting with her, he says, smiling. I was quite a young fellow, and had quite a prejudice against literary women, and especially against poetesses; but I came, saw, and was conquered," he concludes, smiling, and have remained under the charm ever since."

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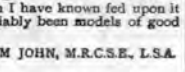

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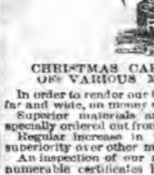

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